

THE Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Eccelesiastical Affairs.

REVISION.

THERE yet remains an immense work of teaching to be done before the triumph of the principles set forth by the Liberation Society can reasonably be expected. Those principles are essentially Christian—that is, they derive very little support from the forces which ordinarily affect our common life. Looked at by the light only of the intellect, they are not irresistibly convincing. Their tissue—so to speak—is moral and religious. They belong to the domain of faith—of faith in God, in Christ, in righteousness, in mercy, in love. The forces with which men are most familiar are chiefly inapplicable in the spiritual kingdom—such, for instance, as secular honour, great wealth, civil law, political or social influence. Why should not the institution designated “the Church” be helped by the machinery at the command of the State? If the object can be secured without doing injustice between man and man, or between sect and sect, what objection can there be to the arrangement which is usually described as indiscriminate or concurrent endowment? What silencing reason can be given why the organised visible power of a nation should never be employed in ministering to the service of the Church of Christ? Say, it cannot engage to teach Christianity, because it is not qualified to undertake the work. But, why may it not find temporalities, or build appropriate edifices, or collect and arrange statistics, or by diplomatic influence open a way for missionaries, or take them to and from their respective destinations in Her Majesty’s ships, for the purpose of aiding the religious enterprises of the age? These, and very many more, are questions which cannot be answered in the sense of Liberationists without an appeal to truths which belong far rather to the spiritual than to the intellectual sphere of thought.

Well, large numbers of those who, somewhat prematurely, and much too securely, have been counted upon for cordial and effective co-operation in the establishment of Free Church principles, proved themselves during the last Session of Parliament to be but imperfectly *en rapport* with the truths they were expected to illustrate as well as to promote. It would be puerile, or even worse, to shut our eyes to the real state of facts. Large sections of Nonconformists need to be taught once more—if, indeed, they ever learned—the true scope and bearing of the faith

which they most honestly and even zealously profess. They are ready to insist upon the Scriptural doctrine that the kingdom of Christ is “not of this world,” and that “the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but spiritual,” at any hazard, and in the teeth of any amount of sceptical opposition. They are not insincere. They are impelled by their Christian sympathies, and guided, for the most part, by the convictions of their consciences. But, it is only too evident, they are uninformed, and unreflecting. The truth they have received has for them only one facet—looks only in one direction. In that obtrusive form of it which is daily thrust upon their attention, they protest against the legal union of the Church with the State. In many of the minor and less glaring forms of it, they are unable to detect its presence, or, at any rate, they are by no means averse to its manifestation.

In the heat of action, it is excusable, perhaps, that proofs of the defects just noted, whether of perception or of faith, should have an irritating effect upon those who conduct the movements of Nonconformists. But on calm retrospection, the least feeling of anger, and far more of contempt, not only appears unjustifiable, but is utterly useless. The fault seems to lie in the method of teaching what may be properly called “Church principles” by Dissenting agencies and authorities. They have paid more attention to the letter than to the spirit of what was taught—they have nourished faith rather in this or that development of the principles they hold than in the living principles themselves. The consequence is that they hold even the things they believe by a tenure of *quasi*-scepticism. The truths they impress with such weighty authority upon their consciences are only abstractions. The instant they bring them to bear upon the problems of practical life, they disbelieve them, or, at all events, mistrust them. Nothing was more obvious than this was, in some of the questions which came before the public in the course of last Session. It is not our intention to subject the various and sometimes conflicting views which were taken of them by different Nonconformist bodies, or by different members of the same body, to critical analysis. No good could be served by a revival of partisan feeling. But it is clear that we could not have so entirely, and, in some special cases, so very widely, differed among ourselves as to the real bearing of principles which we held in common, if we had had the same understanding and appreciation of the principles themselves. The supporters of Church Establishments were not slow to discern the weakness of our position, nor did they hesitate to take advantage of it.

All this shows that the question of disestablishment will require to be worked up to by a vast expenditure of teaching power, not on Churchmen only or even mainly, but on Dissenters. And that power must be addressed to the spiritual, rather than to the exclusively intellectual, susceptibilities of Nonconformist communities. Oh, that it were possible to awaken just the right men to do this special work!—men, for example, well qualified by a thorough religious insight into both persons and things, and who by the faculty of giving emphatic utterance to what they see and feel, would fix the attention of various Dissenting communities upon the truth which is common to

them all, interest them in it, excite and sustain trust in relation to it, and show its identity with the best and the holiest purposes which all of them aspire to promote! We want a Defoe, or a Pascal, or, better still perhaps, a Melancthon, to present in a few pages the bearing of the Church and State controversy on the modern state of society, ecclesiastical as well as secular. We are surprised that the opportunity has not yet been seized by some one able to write his name upon it and make it for ever memorable. Even in the absence, or, say, the non-appearance of any such teacher, there must be teaching to some better purpose than we have seen the effects of hitherto. In this controversy half knowledge is dangerous.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

WHAT has been termed the “Westminster Scandal,” which has been written about, week after week, in the Church journals, has now received the comments of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Several days ago, as our readers are aware, the Rev. G. Vance Smith, the Unitarian minister whose communion with the members of the Establishment and of Nonconformist bodies has given rise to this controversy, addressed a letter to the Archbishop in justification of his own action. Having no right whatever to sit in judgment upon or even to criticise Mr. Smith we made no comment at the time upon his communication, and shall not comment now. We simply refer to his letter as an element in the history of this curious case. Since Mr. Smith wrote, more than fifteen hundred clergymen have addressed a memorial to the Archbishop of Canterbury protesting against a Unitarian minister having been allowed to partake of the Communion of the Established Church. To these the Archbishop has replied. On the whole, we suppose, many people will be rather disappointed with this reply, and many more will be inclined to ask, after having read it, what the Archbishop meant to say, or whether he has meant to say anything—whether, in short, there is not a cloud of words, with various see-saw arguments, which may mean anything, everything, or nothing. Our own conclusion is that the Archbishop in his laudable desire to throw oil on the troubled waters of theological controversy, has, perhaps, laid himself open to the charge of merely fencing with the point at issue. Is it, for instance, more than really very disingenuous fencing, for him to write as follows:—

The one complaint—common to all the memorials—is, as I understand it, that a Unitarian minister, thought worthy of taking part in the work of revising our translation of the Sacred Scriptures, and presenting himself with the other revisers, was not repelled from the Holy Table. I am aware it is urged that he was invited to participate, but of the accuracy of this allegation I find no proof.

Is not this going a little too far? Did the memorialists—do any memorialists in similar circumstances—feel called upon to produce legal evidence of a notorious and publicly admitted fact—admitted, in this case, by the Unitarian himself in his letter to the Archbishop? “It is urged that he was invited to participate, but of the accuracy of this allegation I find no proof.” No proof from the memorialists certainly, but most certainly proof in the Unitarian’s own handwriting. This is a little unworthy, and we are sorry to read it. It looks as though the Archbishop felt he had no case to begin with.

The Archbishop goes on to throw the responsibility of partaking of the Eucharist upon Mr. Smith himself. He considers that there was no course open but to leave to each individual the decision of the question whether he could conscientiously present himself or no. At the same time, the Archbishop says he does not understand how any one who rejects the Nicene Creed, as every Unitarian

must, can join in that service, nor can he understand how anybody could feel it right to invite a Unitarian teacher to join in it. As for the future, he says there are bishops who may be consulted in all such cases—and the bishop taking the responsibility, "the Holy Ordinance is sufficiently guarded."

As far as we can make anything out of the Archbishop's letter it is this. His Grace does not wish to offend Dean Stanley, and therefore throws the responsibility upon Mr. Smith; he does not wish to offend Mr. Smith, and therefore says that while, in his judgment, he committed an error, he did it with the best possible motives, and trusts he will receive a blessing in consequence. He does not wish to offend the memorialists, and so expresses his confidence that they, too, are all dictated by an anxious desire, &c., which will "command the respectful consideration," and so on. Having thus complimented everybody all round, the Archbishop retires with a charitable expression of hope for closer union. But he leaves the real question at issue, and the question raised by the memorialists, altogether untouched. If one Unitarian is to be welcomed at the State-Church altar (we say nothing against it, for Heaven alone knows the past and present extended limits of that altar) why not two, a dozen, a hundred, a thousand, why, in short, should not the Establishment become a vast Unitarian Church? The Archbishop may privately condemn such a lot of Unitarians for taking the Communion, but, after all, the Archbishop is only one person, and his opinion—if you can get at it—of greater external value than others only because of his external position. We judge, on the whole, admitting that our judgment may be wrong, that if the Revisionists had all been Unitarians, and had assembled in Henry VII.'s Chapel, the Archbishop would have thought they had made a slight mistake, but with the best possible motives, and that there was nothing to prevent their doing the same thing again. Perhaps there is not. Can anybody say what can not be done in the Established Church?

We are slightly surprised to find that some Churchmen are aggrieved at the results of the last Session. Considering what they succeeded in doing in connection with the education question, we should have thought they might have cheerfully submitted to minor defeats. Yet we find the *Guardian* writing in this style about the failure of certain Church measures:—

When Parliament refuses by wholesale to give help to Churchmen in their endeavour to remedy practical abuses in the Church Establishment,—for that is what the policy pursued in the last session really comes to,—such refusal is a grave fact pregnant with momentous consequences. Legislation in ecclesiastical affairs has come to something like a dead-lock. It cannot so continue. If Parliament is to retain the supreme and exclusive powers which in certain particulars it at present possesses over the machinery of the Church, it ought to be ready to enable Churchmen by law to accomplish such enlargements, improvements, and adaptations of their institutions as are required by the Church's ever-growing and ever-varying work. If nothing can be done in this direction by the aid of Parliament, the cry for liberty to do without Parliament what must be done somehow will rapidly gain strength, and ere long will become irresistible.

One remark we can add to this, and that is that Parliament will not be discouraged by this threat. As far as our judgment and observation have gone, the House of Commons is getting quite ready to dispense with Church legislation. It is considered a general nuisance—the Church itself being pretty often included in that term. The "cry for liberty" will not be very strenuously resisted, but—our esteemed friends in the Church must really not expect to get liberty and keep the old Parliamentary pay.

The passage of the Education Bill has, as was natural, stimulated the imaginations of the Church party. The journal from which we have just quoted therefore writes:—

In every diocese there should be created or revived a Church Board of Education, and with the aid which can be drawn from the central power of the National Society, a great step may yet be made, in time to secure the ground and narrow the area which will be occupied by the rate-supported schools, with all their difficulties and limitations. Every month now is worth a year in quieter times; there is risk, no doubt, in any action in such unsettled times; but if we can run one noble risk by the aid of Christian liberality, we may yet seize the golden opportunity, and use it for the Church and for the Gospel.

Church first and Gospel afterwards, of course!

The *John Bull*, while resenting what it is pleased to term the "taunts" of the *Nonconformist*, concerning the inability of Churchmen to pray for peace, says:—"It is as intolerable that bishops cannot order extra collects on special occasions, as that every individual clergyman may tamper with the Prayer-Book at his own pleasure. And the grievance only requires to be felt to be remedied." But it is not felt, and that is the worst of it. We try, sometimes, to make our Church friends feel these things, but they

have existed so long that the capability of feeling has almost died out. It is, however, reviving—little thanks, however, to Churchmen themselves.

THE MIXED COMMUNION IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

We have been requested to publish the following correspondence:—

TO HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

My Lord Archbishop,—I hope that I do not trespass unduly upon your Grace in begging your attention to the following circumstances, and expressing the hope that your Grace will take such steps in the matter as may seem to you to be required.

I learn from the *Guardian* newspaper of the 27th ult. that the Rev. T. T. Carter, of Clewer Rectory, and other clergymen, are about to present a memorial to your Grace in reference to the service of the Holy Communion held in Westminster Abbey on the 22nd of June last. In this document the memorialists express their "grief and astonishment" at the admission to that service "of teachers of various sects," "and more especially of one understood to be a denier of the Divinity of our Lord."

I have reason to know that the latter words refer to myself. I am, therefore, anxious to assure your Grace that they do not, in any general and unqualified sense, correctly apply to me. I do not deny "the Divinity of our Lord," as I find it to be declared in the New Testament. On the contrary, I believe it and maintain it. It is, indeed, probable that I differ from the memorialists, as they from me, in regard to what the New Testament declares on several important points; but for this I am in no way answerable to them—nor does the fact that I so differ from them give them any right to describe me to your Grace in the unqualified terms which they use, as "a denier of the Divinity of our Lord."

Should your Grace desire any further explanation of my meaning, I shall be most happy to send it to you; but in this communication I wish to be as brief as possible, and therefore I avoid entering into minute details.

I would, however, further take leave respectfully to state to your Grace that I attended the communion service, on the occasion referred to, in no other spirit than that of a reverent and earnest desire to join in a sacred rite of our religion, one which I considered especially becoming in the particular circumstances under which it was celebrated. I was, of course, aware that there are expressions in the legally prescribed form of administration in which I could not join; but I felt, nevertheless, that, while only a silent spectator in regard to such expressions, I could yet join in other essential parts of the service—that I could, in particular, partake of the sacred elements "in remembrance," and in confession of our common Christian Head. Some persons, it is true, regard the communion rite as more especially expressive of faith in the doctrines of the particular Church in which it happens to be administered. I do not so regard it; nor do I think that any person, or body of persons, has authority so to lower the character of the service, and make it, as it were, the mere symbol of their own special form of Christian belief. The communion is to me, and ought to be to all, raised far above this kind of sectarianism. It is to me distinctively expressive, not of faith in any humanly defined doctrines whatever, but of faith in Christ, and of discipleship and allegiance to Him. On the very peculiar occasion which has given origin to this controversy, I believed it to be in the highest degree becoming that those who were entering upon so important a work as the revision of the English version of the New Testament should unite in making a common Christian confession; even though we might not be able to join equally in the form of words employed (which no one had any power to alter), or put exactly the same construction upon every act or expression of the service. Hence I readily availed myself of the notice sent to me as to other members of the Revision Company, and I was glad to unite with my fellow-workers in so open and devout a confession of the Christian name.

Such was the feeling, and no other, with which I went to the service; nor had I reason to believe that any misunderstanding in reference to myself could be occasioned to others who might be present. I was known to several of the communicants, to some of whom I had just been personally introduced by name, and with some of whom I had conversed.

In case, therefore, your Grace should notice the memorial about to be presented to you, I would respectfully beg you to do so, in such a way as will show your Grace's marked disapproval of the narrow and intolerant spirit of the objectors—men, as it appears, who speak and act as if the "Lord's table" in the National Church were in some way under their especial control, and approachable only by their permission; and who, accordingly, would repel from it with ignominy even one who should desire to sit down in the devoutest spirit of Christian discipleship, unless in regard to certain mysterious doctrines, which almost from the beginning have been matters of controversy in the Church, he should believe exactly as they believe, or be ready to profess exactly as they profess.

Such intolerance appears to me to be unworthy of the nineteenth century, and suitable only to the darkest times of Papal usurpation. I venture, therefore, to hope that your Grace will be very far indeed from giving it your sanction; and that, on the contrary, you will see reason to rebuke it as it deserves.

In conclusion, I would beg to inform your Grace that I propose to publish this letter; and I would also beg your Grace's permission to publish, along with it, any reply with which you may favour me.—I remain, with much respect, your Grace's very obedient servant,
G. VANCE SMITH, Minister of St. Saviourgate
August 4, 1870. Chapel, York.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S REPLY.

Addington Park, C. O. D., August, 1870.

Dear Sir,—Your letter, which has just arrived, will, you may be sure, receive my most serious attention with reference to answers that I may be called upon to give to various memorials, which I hear are to be addressed to me on the subject of the Service in Henry VIII.'s Chapel.—Believe me to be, yours faithfully,
A. C. CANTUAR.

Rev. G. Vance Smith.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, replying to an address presented to him complaining that a Unitarian had been admitted to the mixed Communion in Westminster, regrets the spirit which has been shown in many quarters on this subject. Referring to the course which had been taken, his Grace says: "It had been resolved that there should be an administration of the Holy Communion for the revisers. Notice was given to all, and it was left to each to decide, as before God, whether he could conscientiously draw near to the Holy Table and join in the service by which our Lord and Master is adored. Nothing could be more proper in itself than a celebration of the Holy Communion on such an occasion, and deprecating, as I most solemnly do, any lowering of our Church's standard, I consider that there was no course open but to leave to each individual the decision of the question whether he conscientiously presented himself or no." His Grace further declares that he has no sympathy with those who are indignant at the admission of any Dissenters, however orthodox, to the Holy Communion in our Church.

THE DISSENTING DEPUTIES.

The half-yearly meeting of the deputies of the three denominations, Presbyterians, Independents, and Baptists, was held on Wednesday, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, Mr. Charles Reed, M.P., the chairman of the deputies, in the chair. Mr. C. Sheppard, the secretary, having read the notice convening the meeting, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed, after which the Chairman proceeded to deliver his address. He said:—Gentlemen,—We could not have known when we fixed the day for this meeting that it would be the day for the closing of Parliament, but so it is, and I have heard this morning one of the noblest speeches of our Prime Minister, and one of the most satisfactory speeches delivered in the name of the Queen. Our session is closed, and a long and arduous one it has been. Of the subjects most interesting to the deputies I will mention a few, and the first shall be the census. The difficulty which arose last week shows the importance of using the utmost vigilance even to the very last day of the session, for in this case the Lords inserted the provision to which the Dissenters objected by a majority of four votes. The census of 1851 was taken upon the actual attendance. This showed that the half of the people were not members of the Church of England. In 1861 the Bishops objected to this return, and they proposed a house-to-house inquiry. It was declared by the Dissenters that they would not have any Government inquiry, and the Bill of 1870 was framed with the religious clause omitted. The House of Lords has been compelled to withdraw its amendments, and so we are saved another cause of irritation and heartburning. (Hear.) As to the education question, I have always held that education to be worth anything must be based on religion, and the Bill now passed does not deny, as the secularists proposed, the right of the teaching to read and explain the Bible. Our principle is saved by the grants being given only for the secular portions of the instruction, and into this alone can the Government inspector inquire. (Hear, hear.) I have never desired State aid for our schools; but, as we were to have a national system, I believe the great object of instructing the ignorant and outcast may, if we are wise and patriotic, be by this means well accomplished. (Cheers.) Mr. Reed then referred to the Burial Bill, the Tests Bill, the Glebe Loans Bill, the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, and to the notices of motion by Mr. Miall and Mr. Watkin Williams.—Mr. W. H. Michael proposed a resolution disapproving of the conduct of the House of Lords in obstructing the passing of the University Tests Abolition Bill, and earnestly invited the Government to bring forward the Bill early next session, and press it forward vigorously. He hoped and believed the measure of next session would go further in its liberality than one just dropped. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. J. E. Saunders seconded the resolution, which, with the others, was carried unanimously.—Mr. T. C. Carter moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Osborne Morgan, M.P., for his efforts to obtain the passing of the Burial Laws Amendment Act, and earnestly requesting him to re-introduce the bill early next session. Mr. J. Bennett seconded the resolution, which was passed.—Mr. J. C. Williams submitted a resolution congratulating the constituents of the deputies upon the successful resistance of the Government to the proposed alteration in the Census Bill, supported by a small majority of the House of Lords, and expressing the opinion of the deputies that a return, similar to that of 1851, of attendants at places of worship on a given Sunday next year, would have been of great service, and might easily have been obtained.—Mr. W. Nathan seconded the motion, and after a short discussion it was carried.—Messrs. Ives and Collins were reappointed auditors for the present year, and the proceedings concluded with a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding.

THE DOGMA OF INFALLIBILITY.

At Gatz and in other parts of Styria about 950 persons have declared their intention of seceding from the Church of Rome.

A first act of resistance against infallibility has occurred. Dr. Michaelis, a Roman Catholic priest and professor in the clerical seminary at Braunsberg, in Eastern Prussia, has, in the *Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung*, declared the Pope a heretic and a destroyer of the Church, in arrogating to himself this wicked authority. His example is sure to find followers.

On Sunday in all the Roman Catholic Churches of

London the clergy called attention to the recent proceedings of the Ecumenical Council, and added that they were requested by authority to make known to their congregations that the definitions of the Council required no other publication than the solemn act by which the Holy Father had already published them to the Universal Church. Archbishop Manning, who endorsed this statement, preached on Sunday evening at St. John's Church, Duncan-terrace, Islington.

The *Morning Advertiser* states that the Dowager Marchioness of Queensbury, whose secession from Protestantism to the Church of Rome a few years ago was hailed with rapturous delight by the Roman Catholic community, is one of those who openly proclaim their rejection of the dogma.

VACANT BISHOPRICS.—Some of the Church papers state that the Bishopric of Edinburgh, about to become vacant by the resignation of Bishop Terrot, has been offered to Bishop Cotterell, of Graham's Town, and that he is likely to accept it. Dr. Cotterell was senior wrangler at Cambridge in 1835.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has formally accepted the resignation of the Right Rev. Dr. T. N. Staley as Bishop of Honolulu. The diocese is therefore now *de facto* vacant, and it is doubtful whether another bishop will be appointed, although the King of Hawaii expresses a sincere desire for the nomination of another bishop, to whom he says he will render every possible assistance.

Archdeacon Denison is recovering from his late illness.

THE TABLES OF LESSONS.—"Clericus" writes to the *Times* making grievous complaint of the dropping of the bill during the late session, and adding:—"I have myself adopted the proposed Table of Lessons for some months, to the entire satisfaction and immense relief of the whole congregation, and I have not the slightest intention of dashing the cup from their lips, unless compelled to do so by some higher authority than Mr. Bruce."

Religious and Denominational News

THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE was brought to a close on Wednesday evening. One of its latest acts was to order the preparation of a synopsis of the Education Act just passed, copies of which, when completed, will be forwarded to every section of the Wesleyan body in the kingdom. The next Conference is to be held at Manchester.

ILLNESS OF DR. SPENCE.—We regret to learn that the Rev. Dr. Spence, who was announced to preach at Preston on Tuesday evening, was seized with sudden indisposition during the service. He was removed to the residence of his host, Mr. Teale, and three medical gentlemen who had attended the service hastened to give him their aid. On the following day he was still in a very alarming state.—*English Independent.*

THE OPEN-AIR MISSION.—The seventeenth annual report of this mission has just been issued. It says:—"This work is entirely a labour of love, and the preachers are not paid. The few needful expenses are cheerfully defrayed by those who value the blessing of 'glad news,' and the funds of the mission now require assistance to continue the effort it has sustained for more than seventeen years with very great success." We notice that the income this year shows an increase of 135% upon that of the last year.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The committee have set apart for the service of the German army a staff of competent and well-trained colporteurs of large experience. They will follow the movements of the soldiers from place to place, and, being armed with express official authorisation, will have every facility for easy access to the men. The committee entrust their agent, Mr. Davies, with discretionary power to distribute gratuitously any number of separate Gospels, and even New Testaments, where there is manifest eagerness to possess a copy without the means of paying for it. In other cases the Scriptures are to be sold at greatly reduced prices, so that a New Testament may be obtained for a single groschen. All military hospitals are to be bountifully supplied without charge. The same privilege will be extended to the wounded and prisoners of war. M. de Pressensé, the society's agent for France, has received instructions to pursue a similar course, and has been assured that the committee are prepared to meet all the pecuniary charges which may be incurred by a prompt, liberal, and comprehensive fulfilment of their wishes. Ten or twelve of the ablest French colporteurs are appointed to the work, and are now actively employed in the localities where the soldiers are gathered in large masses; and as some of these have themselves served in the ranks, they know the best modes of reaching those whose habits, associations, and temptations are connected with military life. The separate Gospels are being disseminated as rapidly as they can be prepared and forwarded. The same rules will be applied to the issue of Bibles and Testaments as are sanctioned for Germany.

LONGEVITY.—The mortality returns for England in the year 1868 record the death of 178 men and 383 women registered as 95 years old, or upwards, when they died. Eleven of these men had reached 100 or upwards, and one at Cheltenham was 111. Fifty-two of the women had completed a century of life or more, and one in the district of Monmouth and South Wales was 114 years old. These two rare illustrations of old age, if the register may be relied on, were born before George III. was king.

Correspondence.

THE BELGIAN TREATIES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—As the public mind is evidently under considerable misapprehension as respects the Belgian Treaties, perhaps you will grant me space enough to explain in a few words how the matter stands, or, at least, how it stood, before our Government, with very questionable wisdom, in my judgment, involved us in the new engagements to which we now stand committed. After Belgium had, in 1830, severed itself from Holland, to which it had been annexed by the Treaty of Vienna, the five great Powers, Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia, called a conference in London, and declared the kingdom of the Netherlands dissolved. They then entered into a treaty signed on the 15th of November, 1831, constituting Belgium into a separate kingdom. After defining its territorial limits, Article 7 of the treaty declared that "Belgium, within the limits specified, shall form an independent and perpetually neutral state. It shall be bound to observe such neutrality towards all other nations." Then a subsequent article (25) contains these words:—"The Courts of Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia, guarantee to His Majesty the King of the Belgians the execution of all the preceding articles." But the King of Holland refused to acquiesce in this partition of his kingdom, and determined to hold his own by force of arms. What then took place? Russia, Prussia, and Austria positively refused to take part in military measures against the King of Holland. But England and France undertook the work, the former by its fleet, and the latter by its army. The King of Holland was defeated and obliged to evacuate Belgium, and in 1839 he consented to be a party to a treaty which acknowledged the *status quo*. A new treaty was also entered into at the same time between the five Powers and Belgium, which absolutely abrogated that of 1831. Here are the words in which this is done:—"The Treaty of the 15th of November, 1831, between their Majesties the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, The Emperor of Austria, the King of the French, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of all the Russias, and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, is declared not to be obligatory upon the high contracting parties."

But the Treaty of 1839 is merely a repetition of that of 1831, with this very significant exception, that Article 25, by which the five Courts "guarantee to the King of the Belgians the execution of all the preceding articles," is omitted. But in the treaty with Holland it is said that the articles are "placed under the guarantee of their said Majesties." And what are the articles so placed? With two exceptions they relate entirely and exclusively to the relations between Holland and Belgium; defining the limits of the latter, regulating the rivers and canals in which the two countries had a common interest, deciding the proportion of the public debt to be borne by each, granting political amnesty on either side, &c. The two exceptions are these—1st. An article declaring, as the Treaty of 1831 did, that Belgium "shall form an independent and perpetually neutral State"; 2nd. That "the port of Antwerp shall continue to be solely a port of commerce." Has this latter article been observed by the Belgians themselves? Why, so far otherwise, that Antwerp has been converted into a very powerful fortress and naval arsenal.

But what is the amount of England's obligations? It has been constantly affirmed in Parliament and by the press, that this country is bound in some very explicit and special manner to fight for Belgian independence against all comers and at all hazards. Well, the reader has before him every syllable that occurs in the Treaty of 1839 having any bearing whatever on the subject. That is to say, one of the articles declares that "Belgium shall form an independent and perpetually neutral State," and another of them that the articles of the treaty are "placed under the guarantee of their said Majesties," that is, the five Majesties who signed the treaty. Now, what does this mean? Does it mean that each of these Powers severally and on its own account, binds itself to defend Belgium against all the others and against all the world? Such an engagement would have been sheer insanity, especially for a country like England. If Belgium is to be defended from invasion, it must be defended by land; and what means have we to defend Belgium against the forces of any two, or indeed of any one of the other Powers? If the two conspirators—Bismarck and Benedetti—for that Bismarck was in the conspiracy I have no doubt—had come to an agreement on their proposal that France should annex Belgium, and that Prussia should protect the acquisition, what could we have done? Could we have sent an army to the continent to cope with the million and a half armed men whom those two Powers could have brought into the field? But, it might be said, we could have appealed to Russia and Austria. We did so in 1832, when they were bound by a guarantee far more explicit than the one that binds them now, and they refused to draw a sword in defence of Belgium. The Government has appealed to them lately, and Mr. Gladstone told Parliament they had received replies which "he thought he might describe as favourable." But

we have heard no more of these "favourable" replies, and when questioned on the last day of the session as to whether anything more had been heard from those two Powers, the Prime Minister kept ominous silence. Indeed, the report is now circulated that Russia has declined to be a party to the new treaty. And in any case the idea of appealing to Russia and Austria recognises at least the joint character of the obligation, if any exists. What I am anxious to protest against is the notion diligently propagated by some filibustering spirits amongst us, to the effect that England is bound by herself, without allies and against all odds, to maintain the independence and neutrality of Belgium. With regard to the new treaty entered into, although, if events continue to take the course they are now taking, we may hope that it may never come into operation, no one can have calmly examined all the contingencies of this war without feeling that that treaty involves most perilous possibilities for this country. The moral of the whole business is this—the folly and injustice of permitting secret diplomacy to commit a nation like ours to vast indefinite obligations, without its own knowledge or consent. Under the present system, one man at the Foreign Office can pawn for generations to come the character and honour, the blood and treasure of thirty millions of people, who are kept in the dark until the whole transaction is completed, and when the time comes for redeeming the pledge, although it may then for the first time come fully to the knowledge of those implicated, can point triumphantly to the "letter of the bond," as leaving no means of retreat from their obligation, however absurd or disastrous it may prove to be.

Yours truly,

HENRY RICHARD.

EVANGELICAL CONTINENTAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Be kind enough to allow me to draw the attention of your readers to the advertisement of the Evangelical Continental Society for special contributions. I have just received the following appeal:—

"My dear friend,—Our committee request me to lay before your committee the sad position in which we are placed in consequence of the present war. All transactions, all business, every kind of payment is suspended. The only spare money remaining is flowing into the fund for the wounded soldiers; but in the meantime our labourers need their daily bread. We cannot think of dismissing them; we must face the hurricane. I need not add anything, as I am sure that our friends in England feel for us and understand our wants. Oh, pray—pray much—that this awful war may soon come to an end, and peace be restored to our wounded and bleeding France!"

The committee appeal with confidence to the friends of missions. The ordinary income of the society is pledged for the support of Evangelists now labouring in various parts of the Continent, and without special contributions it will be impossible to respond to the earnest appeals for prompt and liberal help.

Yours truly,

JOHN SHEDLOCK, Secretary.

7, Blomfield-street, E.C., Aug. 15, 1870.

COLLECTIONS FOR THE SICK AND WOUNDED.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—It has been suggested to me, "Why not make an appeal to our churches for collections on behalf of the sick and wounded (both French and German) in these recent battles?"

Last week I had relatives staying with me who usually live in the North of Germany, and who, whilst with me, were in the habit of receiving most distressing accounts from the seat of war. One lady (a German baroness) writes, "We must husband the little money we have, for it will be a long time before we get any more. We are reduced to living on eggs, corn, and chickens. The poor literally are dying for want." A relative still in Bonn writes:—"The confusion, distress and want arising from this horrid war are indescribable. Steamers and trains are coming in every hour full of sick and wounded. The scene is appalling. I cannot stay here." The *Bonner Zeitung* last week said, "We are in urgent want of all kinds of help, our commissariat is exhausted." No wonder, when troops for three weeks previously were passing through at the rate of 30,000 a day, many of whom were billeted on the inhabitants.

I happened incidentally to mention these facts to a few friends the other day belonging to different sections of the Church of Christ, and they not only generously extemporised a fund, but suggested a wider appeal. One of them (brother to the Rev. Frederick Williams, of the Congregational Institute, Nottingham) most efficiently helped. Through his means a collection was made last Lord's Day at a small village called Theddingworth, near Rugby, and the astonishing sum of £1. 10s. was realised. Might not such an example be followed? and would not the blessing of them that are ready to perish, and the blessing of the Lord and Master Himself, fall on others as well as on the inhabitants of this humble village?

Would you kindly insert this appeal? I have means of remitting securely and promptly to the committee at Bonn for the relief of the sick and the wounded

any sums which may be confided to me. Bonn being a university town with a large staff of medical students and professors, and not likely to be the scene of hostilities, is largely used as a Lazaretto. I would not, however, urge the claims of a mere local committee. Let the International Committee be communicated with. Only if the above-mentioned fact suggest a limited application I will undertake to transmit securely sums of money to the Bonn Committee. It may appear an advantage in the esteem of many to know that their contributions would be at once safely and wisely applied.

The Rev. W. Jones, Congregational minister of this city, endorses and urges this appeal.

I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,

GEORGE SHORT, B.A.,

Baptist Minister, Salisbury.

Elm Grove, Salisbury, Aug. 16, 1870.

THE CHURCH AT LYNTON.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—From the tone of his letter, I think your correspondent "A." can hardly be aware of the character of "the restoration of the Church" at Lynton, towards the cost of which he was asked to subscribe. Within the last few weeks I happened to pass through that beautiful neighbourhood with a party of friends, and finding the church door open, we went in to find a brief shelter from the glare and heat of a July sun. We were somewhat shocked to see above the altar (?) images in white marble of Christ upon the cross, and of two females standing by His side. On the altar itself were candles—not lighted.—it was on a Tuesday at noon—and vases of flowers. The whole thing would look rather pretty to children of larger as well as of lesser growth.

I was informed that this "restoration of the church" was accomplished by the present vicar, the Rev. W. L. Lawson, who sent the plan before it was carried out to the late Bishop of Exeter for approval, who returned it "without comment." I was also told that the present Bishop of Exeter lately held a confirmation in this church, thus sanctioning, as some will doubtless think, this return, if not to Rome, at least to some of the worst abuses of that Church.

Perhaps your correspondent, who seems to have sources of information open to him to which I had no access, may be able to throw some further light on the merits of this appeal of the Vicar of Lynton to the public for aid.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

AN ENGLISH PROTESTANT.

29, Gracechurch-street, London, E.C.

August 11, 1870.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE BELGIAN TREATY.

The House of Lords met on Wednesday at half-past twelve o'clock. There were about thirty peers present.

LORD CAIRNS, advertent to the treaty with France and Prussia as to the neutrality of Belgium, objected to the new engagement into which we had entered as containing the seeds of considerable embarrassment and possible complication. The natural course would have been to announce to the two belligerents, but not by way of menace, that England was prepared to maintain the Treaty of 1839, and to oppose any attempt by either or both to violate it. Russia and Austria ought to have been informed of these communications, in order that arrangements might be made for a united course of action in any contingency which might arise. Pointing out certain elements of danger in the treaty, he examined in turn the consequences of its violation by France or Prussia. It would be impossible to agree as to the particular operations which might justly be required of us, while if England joined one of the belligerents the other would necessarily declare war against us and carry it on wherever we could be struck at and injured. It was now the object of each belligerent to obtain the alliance and co-operation of England, and a skilful strategist might so arrange matters as to compel the other belligerent to violate the territory of Belgium. The engagement would be useless if both the belligerents violated the neutrality of Belgium, because there could then be no co-operation with us on the part of either. He also feared that the treaty might involve us in difficulties with Austria and Russia. The text of the treaty might remove the difficulties he had pointed out, but he sincerely hoped the occasion might never arise for our intervention in carrying out the engagements of the new treaty.

LORD GRANVILLE denied that the course taken by the Government was either menacing or offensive, and argued that the plan proposed by Lord Cairns would not have been successful. The Government had received from Austria the assurance of her readiness to adhere to the proposal, assuming that France and Prussia did not object to sign the treaty. Russia sent her most friendly assurances, but declined to accede to the treaty, because she already considered herself as bound by the original treaty. She also desired an understanding of a much wider description, the effect of which would be to bring England under obligations by which she was not at present bound. England having now entered upon the treaty was bound by its obliga-

tions. He did not believe the contingency contemplated would arise, but if it did we should be obliged to act upon it. It would, however, be an enormous advantage to have a Power numbering its soldiers by hundreds of thousands co-operating with our army and fleet. He repudiated as gratuitous the suspicion that after the solemn renewal of this treaty obligation, binding on the personal honour of the Emperor of the French and the King of Prussia, they would either of them, within a very few months and in the face of the world, violate such an engagement. While the treaty would, he believed, prevent a particular event which would be most disagreeable and entangling to Great Britain, he strongly denied that it would weaken the obligations of the Treaty of 1839, and cited the 7th article of the Treaty of Paris as an exact precedent. Replying to the objection that the action of Her Majesty's Government had been disrespectful to Belgium, he said that he officially informed the Belgian Government of the negotiations when they had reached a certain point, assuring them that he wished to act in harmony with Belgium, and that our sole object was her independence and neutrality. These assurances were entirely satisfactory to the Belgian King and Chambers. So far as the treaty had gone there was reason to believe that it would be the best means of preventing a great difficulty which had excited much alarm and anxiety both at home and abroad.

LORD CAIRNS asked what progress had been made with the treaty, and whether the noble earl could give the text.

LORD GRANVILLE said the treaty with Prussia was signed by Count Bernstorff and himself on the previous day. The French Ambassador had authority to sign as soon as his full powers arrived. He then read the draught of the treaty between England and Prussia respecting Belgium, explaining that the treaty with France was, *mutatis mutandis*, identical with it.

LORD STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE approved the objects aimed at by the Government, and hoped that England would, with the other neutrals, offer her mediation whenever an opportunity offered. He regretted that Her Majesty's Government had not obtained the co-operation of Russia. The Duke of CLEVELAND could not agree with Lord Cairns that we should have come forward alone and declared our determination to maintain our obligations. The Government had acted wisely in providing during the war for the security of Belgium, although the force of the Treaty of 1839 would be somewhat weakened when the time came for falling back upon it. LORD SHAFTESBURY was unwilling that the session should close without thanking Her Majesty's Government for the dignified and patriotic course they had marked out, in which they would have the support of the country. LORD REDDERSDALE did not see how we were to act in case of any violation of Belgian territory, because we had no force there, and were debarred from exercising any force elsewhere. LORD GRANVILLE denied that we were so debarred. LORD REDDERSDALE asked whether we were not bound to act within the territory of Belgium alone, and LORD GRANVILLE replied in the negative. LORD REDDERSDALE said it would be awkward if we had to take action without the co-operation of Russia, as he feared would be the case.

THE PROROGATION.

The ceremonial of prorogation was afterwards performed.

The Lords Commissioners having taken their seats, and a message having been sent to request the attendance of the other House, the Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Appropriation and other bills.

The LORD CHANCELLOR then read the following prorogation speech:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

The state of public business enables me to release you from your attendance in Parliament.

I continue to receive from all foreign Powers assurances of goodwill and friendship; but I have witnessed with grief and pain, on domestic as well as public grounds, the recent outbreak of war between two powerful nations, both of them allied with this country.

My best exertions had been used to avert this great calamity.

I shall now direct a constant and anxious attention to the strict observance of the duties and the maintenance of the rights of neutrality.

I have cheerfully assented to the measure, matured by your wisdom, to enlarge the power of the Executive, not only for the discharge of international duties, but for the prevention of acts which, in times of war, might be injurious to the interests of the country.

I shall make every fitting endeavour to check the operation of causes which might lead towards enlarging the area of the present conflict, and to contribute, if opportunity shall be afforded me, to the restoration of an early and honourable peace.

I have tendered to the two belligerent Powers treaties identical in form, to give additional security to Belgium against the hazards of a war waged upon her frontiers. This treaty has been signed by Count Bernstorff on the part of the North German Confederation, and the French Ambassador has signified that he has authority to sign the corresponding instrument as soon as his full powers arrive. Other Powers, which were parties to the Treaty of 1839, have been invited to accede, if they should think fit, to this engagement.

The shocking murders recently perpetrated in Greece produced a painful impression throughout Europe, and have drawn attention to serious evils existing in that country. My unremitting efforts will be directed to securing the complete and searching character of the inquiry which has been instituted.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,—

I thank you for the liberal provision which was made

by you for the ordinary service of the year, and for the additional supplies of men and money which you have voted in view of the altered state of things on the continent of Europe.

The condition of the revenue gives ground for the hope that it may be able to meet the new charge which has been created, without reversing the proper balance of income and expenditure.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

In regard to domestic legislation, I may fitly congratulate you on the close of a session marked by an assiduous devotion to labours of the utmost national importance.

The temporary act for the repression of agrarian crime and the maintenance of order in Ireland, has, up to the present time, answered the purposes for which it was passed.

From the act for regulating the occupation and ownership of land I anticipate the gradual establishment both of harmonious relations between owners and occupiers of land, and of general confidence in the provisions and administration of the law, and in the just and benevolent intentions of the Legislature.

In consequence of the efforts which have been made, in matters of capital moment, to remove from the Statute Book whatever might seem inequitable to Ireland, I trust that the discharge of the first duty of Government in providing for the security of life and property will become more easy; and I shall rely with confidence upon the loyalty and affection of my Irish subjects.

It has given me pleasure to concur with you in the passage of the important law providing for National Education in England. I perceive in it a new guarantee for the moral and social well-being of the nation, and for its prosperity and power.

The Naturalisation Act, and the Act for the Extradition of Criminals, will tend to confirm our friendly relations with foreign Powers.

The act which regulates enlistment for a shortened term of service in the ranks of the army will, I trust, tend to increase the efficiency of the force, to promote the welfare of the soldier, and to provide for the nation a reserve of men well trained to arms, and ready, in any case of emergency, to return to the standards.

I bid you farewell for the recess, with the earnest prayer that, when you are again summoned to your duties, I may be enabled to rejoice with you in the re-establishment of peace on the continent of Europe.

Parliament was formally prorogued until the 27th of October.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Commons also sat at half-past twelve o'clock.

The long-delayed new writ for Dublin was ordered to be made out. MR. NEWDEGATE called attention to the action of the Board of Works in reference to the Wellington Monument, and extracted from Mr. Ayrton an undertaking—with which he professed himself quite content—to lay on the table the whole correspondence up to the present time.

THE BELGIAN TREATY.

MR. GLADSTONE informed the House that the new treaty for the maintenance of Belgian neutrality had been signed by Count Bernstorff, and that M. de Lavelette would sign it as soon as his full powers arrive. He then read the text of the treaty, which consists of four articles, and engages this country to co-operate with one of the belligerents in the defence of the Belgian territory if it is invaded by the other belligerent. It is to continue for twelve months after the ratification of peace, with the proviso that the engagements of 1839 will then continue in full force, and it only binds us to carry on war within Belgian territory.

MR. OSBORNE remarked that he would prefer to have no treaty than the extraordinary document which had been laid on the table in so extraordinary a manner, and which he characterised as "a childish perpetration of diplomatic folly." It was not only superfluous, but it superseded the previous treaties, and if it had been submitted to the House he was confident it would have been unanimously rejected. He treated with ridicule the idea of confiding our operations to Belgian territory, "making war on homoeopathic principles," as he termed it. He maintained, too, that we were bound to stand by Belgium, not only in honour but by interest, for our liberties and our independence would not be safe for twenty-four hours if Belgium were in the hands of a hostile power. And how, he asked, should we act if both belligerents invaded Belgium?

MR. BUXTON held that the Government deserved the greatest credit for the course they had taken, which he believed would secure the peace of Europe.

SIR H. BULWER, though agreeing in the impossibility of "homoeopathic war," pointed out that the treaty did not say that we would not carry the war beyond the Belgian frontiers; it merely said that we would not engage ourselves to go beyond that sphere. Though not agreeing with all points of the treaty, he acquiesced in it, as producing the conviction in Europe that we intended to stand by our engagements. But the important point now, Sir Henry said, was not to protect Belgium against France, but to protect France against the consequences of the rash enterprise she had so heedlessly undertaken. He reminded the House that during the reign of the present Emperor the bonds of amity between the two countries had been drawn closer than at any previous period, and if the Government could save France from the consequences, not only of war, but of revolution, they would have performed the noblest of acts.

MR. WHITE, as an economist who recognised our duty to defend Belgium, thanked the Government for the treaty. He went on to make some observations disparaging to the Emperor, which provoked very decided remonstrances from the House; and Colonel BARTHELOT was much cheered in expressing an opinion that it was most foolish to go into such considerations. The English nation, he believed, sym-

pathised with both belligerents, and would rejoice to see the war put an end to. On the main point he held that it would have been wiser to stand on the Treaty of 1839.

Mr. S. BRAUMONT asked whether the treaty had been concluded with the assent of Belgium, and whether Russia and Austria had acceded to it?

Mr. GLADSTONE protested with all the emphasis at his command against Mr. Osborne's extravagant and exaggerated statement that the liberties of England would be gone if Belgium were in the possession of a hostile power, and maintained that our concern in the preservation of Belgian independence was substantially no greater than that of the other Powers. The Government had not been moved by any such selfish spirit, nor had they based their action solely on the guarantees to which an impracticably rigid significance had been attached, against which he felt himself bound to protest. Far wider and stronger than interest or guarantees was the consideration whether we could warrantably stand by and see a crime perpetrated by the absorption of Belgium which would have been the knell of public right and public law in Europe. He dwelt, too, on the claims Belgium had on us as a model for orderly Government, combined with perfectly free institutions, and answering Mr. Osborne's criticisms, he maintained that the Treaty of 1839 was not weakened nor superseded by this addition, and that the peculiar circumstances of the case justified this departure from general rules. In answer to Mr. Beaumont, he said that Belgium had advisedly not been made a party to the treaty, and that no decided answer had yet been received from Russia and Austria. Describing the general attitude of the Government, he assured the House that it would be ready to co-operate in seizing the first opportunity for interposing to restore peace on honourable and permanent terms.

At two o'clock Black Rod made his appearance and summoned the House to attend in the House of Peers, where Parliament was prorogued with the usual formalities.

THE WAR.

GREAT BATTLE OUTSIDE OF METZ.

Some puzzling telegrams have been received both from Berlin and Paris relative the conflicts before Metz, the explanation of which will probably be found in our Postscript. On Monday the Queen of Prussia received the following despatch from the King, dated Henry:—

"A victorious battle has taken place before Metz, in which our 7th and 1st Corps d'Armée were engaged. No details have as yet been received. I proceed immediately to the battle-field."

This was followed up on Tuesday morning by the publication of the following explanatory telegram, which it will be seen is dated Monday:—

HERNY, August 15.

Yesterday afternoon the 1st and 7th Army Corps attacked the French troops outside Metz with great violence, and drove them back after a sanguinary encounter into the town. The French losses are estimated at 4,000 men.

His Majesty the King made a reconnaissance in force to-day, and for several hours penetrated within the French chain of outposts without any demonstration being made on the part of the French. A proof that in the French army a strong feeling of discouragement prevails.

A telegram from Luxembourg of yesterday's date says that the Bishop, on receipt of intelligence from Metz, invited all his clergy to proceed there this day to administer consolation to the dying.

Soon after the publication of the King's first message the following despatch from the Emperor Napoleon, dated Longeville, 10 p.m., Sunday, was telegraphed from Paris:—

The French army commenced to cross over to the left bank of the Moselle. This morning reconnoitring parties announced the presence of the Prussian vanguards. When one half of the army had crossed, the Prussians attacked in great force, and after a fight which lasted four hours, were repulsed with considerable losses.

The Emperor left Metz on Sunday, at two p.m., with the Prince Imperial, for Verdun. Before he left Metz a proclamation of the Emperor was published, in which he said:—

In leaving you to oppose the invading enemy I rely upon your patriotism to defend this great city. You will not allow the foreigner to seize this bulwark of France, and you will emulate the army in courage and devotion.

I shall preserve a grateful memory of the welcome I have found within your walls, and I hope to be able to return in happier times to thank you for your noble conduct.

A despatch from Paris, dated Sunday, says:—"Metz is now in a perfect state of defence, and fully provisioned for a siege. No persons are now allowed to take up residence there without being provided with at least forty days' provisions, and the police have commenced controlling the supply of water to the inhabitants. Marshal Leboeuf constantly makes daring reconnaissances at the head of a brigade of Cuirassiers."

A private letter to the *Peuple Français*, from Metz, states that Bazaine had on Thursday 170,000 men wherewith to oppose the army of Prince Frederick Charles, numbering from 200,000 to 225,000. MacMahon had 60,000 men, including De Failly's corps, and was supported by Canrobert, whose corps number at the present moment 30,000 men and 40,000 men, who are marching to Châlons to reinforce Canrobert. MacMahon's corps is confronted by that of the Crown Prince of Prussia, whose strength is estimated at from 110,000 to 120,000 men. The *Peuple Français* adds that MacMahon and De Failly have effected their junction in good order before Nancy.

This intelligence to a great extent supersedes the other military news of the last few days. Ever since the great battles of Saturday week, the three German armies have been slowly advancing, and though meeting no resistance, capturing quantities of stores and even railroad trains. The two trains of pontoons by which the French intended to have crossed the Rhine were taken near Hagenau. While the right wing of the Germans was held back, the left or Crown Prince's army was being pushed forward, in order to turn Metz, and threaten the French communications with the interior. The Germans had on Tuesday left Sierck and Bouzonville. The right of their position, as named in the despatches of Wednesday, was Les Etangs, a village on the left bank of the Nied, about nine miles east by north of Metz, on the road by Boulay to Saarlouis. On that side there has been no further advance signalled. The whole army has evidently pivoted upon its right, wheeling as a column wheels upon a fixed point, and the centre has advanced at a slower pace than the left, till the line which ran from Les Etangs, in a south-east direction, through Folligny, Faulquemont, Gros Tenquin, Fenestrang, Vaarburg, on Wednesday last, on Saturday ran from Les Etangs to Pont à Mousson, Frouard, and Nancy, while the headquarters were fixed in rear of the right centre of the line at Herny. Doubtless the Prussians, however, did not weaken their right while advancing their left, but kept it so strong as to render it safe against an attack by Bazaine from Metz.

Meanwhile, as they advanced, the forts in their rear either fell or were masked. Strasbourg, which the Crown Prince passed by on his left, is invested by a detachment from his army, or by troops specially brought for that purpose from across the Rhine. Bitsche, commanding the railway from Sarreguemines to Hagenau with its guns within only a few score yards off the line, was at the date of the last advices still in French hands—but one Prussian company—some 250 men—was watching the detachment of 300 National Guards in possession. Nevertheless, if these Garde Mobile troops held their fort, they could, if they dared, render the railway useless by threatening to fire upon the trains. But the frontier railway is now of little use to the Prussians. They will draw supplies by the railway from Weissenburg, by Hagenau and Wendenheim, to Saverne and Nancy, which the French appear to have neglected to blow up; and the necessity for preserving this line of rail—the only one which they can use when once they pass the Moselle—accounts for their desire to isolate Strasbourg. We now hear that they do not appear to be investing that place, a task which would, indeed, require an army of 60,000 men for its accomplishment. We learn that 3,000 of MacMahon's corps made their way to that place, and are now, we suppose, added to its garrison; but the fact is a significant sign of the complete rout of the marshal's force.

Lichtenberg, a little hill fort, off the road from Bitsche to Lugweiler, has capitulated. The fortress of La Petite Pierre has surrendered, and large military stores are reported to have fallen into Prussian hands. Yet more important, Phalsburg, a fortress of the third class, which stood so well the blockades of 1814 and 1815, has fallen, apparently without a struggle, for it was in German hands on Friday last, and with it the last of the three chief passages of the Vosges, north of the River Zorn. Thus the Prussian communications with the Palatinate and the Rhine are secured, and the Vosges have ceased to be an obstacle to the conduct of their trains of supplies.

On Sunday afternoon, about the same time that the Emperor is reported to have left Metz, a Prussian reconnaissance appears to have summoned the town of Toul to surrender—a demand which, supported only by 300 Hussars, was energetically refused. Toul is a fortress of the second class, and, situated on the Moselle some twelve miles west of Nancy, closes the road by Bar-le-Duc and Vitry to Châlons. Its ramparts were being lined by the Garde Mobile and the National Guards, and it may retard for a short time the advance of the Prussians left on that road; but if it is not armed and provisioned for a siege—and we have no reason to suppose that it is—its fall can only be a question of hours. MacMahon is said to have had his headquarters here on Saturday, in which case he ought to be able to make good his retreat on Châlons, though fears are expressed in Paris that the enemy have succeeded in intercepting him. The Crown Prince, in following the marshal, seems to have gone through the Vosges passes near to but to the north of that by which MacMahon retreated, and was moving part of his army at any rate direct on Nancy. This known, it became clear that the French main army was to be outflanked strategically, for it was not likely that MacMahon could be reinforced sufficiently to hold the Crown Prince back from the Moselle.

Yesterday it was telegraphed to Paris "that Prussian Uhlans have been seen at Commercy. They

took the road by way of Bar-le-Duc, and cut the railway line." Commercy is a small town about a dozen miles west by north-west of Toul mentioned above.

A telegram of Monday's date says that "the enemy's forces do not appear seriously to intend undertaking the siege of Strasbourg. They are chiefly endeavouring to isolate the besieged, and have, it is said, blown up the railway bridge to Bale, near Tegusheim. It is also believed that the forces in front of Strasbourg are not very considerable."

A French fleet, consisting of eight ironclads and three despatch boats, was off Ouxhaven, at the mouth of the Elbe, on Saturday. The Admiral of the French Fleet in the North Sea has given notice of the blockade of the rivers Eider, Elbe, Weser, and the Jähde. The blockade is to commence on the 15th (Monday), but ten days' grace would be given to neutral vessels. Notice has been forwarded to the different British Consuls. The declaration has been made in consequence of the refusal of the English Governor of Heligoland to furnish a pilot for a flag of truce. According to the correspondent of the *Daily News* at Hamburg, the French squadron "will probably be sought for by the Prussian vessels, which are now, or were till Saturday, in the Jähdebusen." To talk of bombarding Hamburg at a distance of sixty miles from the sea, or of attempting to come up the Elbe, where the Channel is even more tortuous and dangerous than the Thames, is sheer rhodomontade. To say nothing of the removal of the beacons and buoys, the French ships could not even approach Ouxhaven without getting aground.

Vice-Admiral Jachmann, of the German Navy, has been appointed Naval Commander-in-Chief at Wilhelmshaven and of the North Sea Squadron, and has hoisted his flag on board the ironclad König-Wilhelm, at Wilhelmshaven.

Of the French fleet in the Baltic we hear nothing except that it had been cruising before Kiel, which was thought too strong for an attack. As for Stettin and Königsberg, they are nearly as far inland as Hamburg, have quite as little water for large ships, and the mouth of the Oder at Swinemünde, and of the Haff at Pillau, are hermetically closed by sunken vessels filled with stones.

THE BATTLE OF WOERTH.

We have now (says the *Standard*) Marshal MacMahon's official despatch of the action of Reichshoffen, as he calls it, or Woerth, as it is called by the Prussians. The marshal explains that after being obliged to evacuate Weissenburg his object was to cover the railway from Strasbourg to Bitsche. We now learn exactly what troops were engaged. They were MacMahon's four divisions and the Dumesnil division of the 7th (Douay's) Corps, which joined MacMahon in the morning. The position occupied took the form of a salient angle, the left resting on Reichshoffen, the point of the angle being at Froeschwiller, and the right extending in a long line through Elsasshausen, towards Marbronn. The 1st, 3rd, and 4th divisions of MacMahon's corps were in first line; the Dumesnil division in the rear of the 4th, and MacMahon's 2nd division, with four brigades of cavalry, in reserve. The enemy appear to have first attacked the salient, when the left division changed front in advance on its right wing, evidently to prevent its right being enfiladed. Then the Prussians heavily cannonaded the centre, and later attacked the right at Elsasshausen with vast numbers of skirmishers, supported by columns, and aided by the fire of sixty guns. We have heard from other sources how gallantly the French endeavoured to hold their ground. The Prussians pay them every tribute for their bravery and devotion. We know how nearly every officer of MacMahon's staff was killed or wounded, and how he himself had a horse shot under him. Cavalry charged in vain on the Prussian infantry. In vain the guns were taken to the front, to draw on them the enemy's fire, and so allow the French infantry to attack with some chance of reaching the enemy. Outnumbered, and met with equal gallantry by their Prussian foes, the French right was at length, after many hours of hard fighting, borne back. The action had commenced at seven in the morning; at four in the afternoon the retreat began. It was commenced from the beaten right in rear of the left, which covered their movement. At Niederbronn L'Esparron's division of De Failly's corps had arrived, and held the defile for a time against the Bavarians till night-fall, and with such success that whereas the retreat was really on Saverne southwards, the Prussians believed it to be north-westerly upon Bitsche. Heavy as were MacMahon's losses, there is reason to suppose those of the Prussians were equally severe. But some portion of the French troops appear to have been cut off, for there were doubtless great numbers of unwounded prisoners taken, besides the guns, mitrailleurs, and eagles. That MacMahon's corps was terribly demoralised after the fight, M. Texier's account places beyond question—that it fought splendidly during the day is only to give the greater credit to the determination of its enemy. We estimate the French troops engaged during the day at about 50,000, subsequently covered in their retreat by 10,000 of De Failly's corps. The Prussians had at least three corps engaged, and these would not contain less than 105,000 troops. It is not to be wondered at, then, that MacMahon was beaten and routed, but it still remains matter for astonishment that he was so placed that an attack upon him by such vastly superior forces was possible."

The *Manchester Guardian* publishes the following special telegram:—"Berlin, Saturday, 11.15 a.m.—According to reports received here, our troops opened the battle of Woerth between three and four in the

morning. The Germans drove the enemy out of Woerth, and compelled them to retire to the opposite hills. The French artillery and mitrailleurs—the latter recognised by their peculiar report—opened on the Prussians; but, in pursuing the enemy through the valley, neither guns nor mitrailleurs did as much injury as was expected. The bloodiest struggle began at the foot of the heights. The Zouaves and Turcos had taken up a position in some vineyards, with the advantage of cover and choice of aim. The Germans without cover necessarily fired more at random, and our troops were driven back twice, thrice, and at some points four times. The French reconquered Woerth, twice driving our troops back to the old position of the morning. Once the French felt so sure of victory that two regiments of Cuirassiers were ordered up to the attack to make it complete. At this juncture a body of German troops moved from their hiding-place in the valley. The Prussian artillery fired two volleys, and the enemy's cavalry retreated—a disorderly crowd. The confusion was so great that the cavalry carried the infantry with them, and the enemy was driven back towards the heights. The struggle for the heights now began, and the Germans were again successful, after fifteen hours' fighting. The centre and left consisted of the 5th, 11th, and part of the 6th army corps, with the Wurtemberg and right wing of the Bavarians, whose timely flank movement contributed much to the success of the day, as the Crown Prince said. After the battle of Saarbrück, 10,000 blankets were taken—very useful for hospital requirements. An immense store of tobacco was also captured. The French are destroying the roads round the fortress of Strasburg by mines."

The *Soir* publishes the following letter, written the day after the battle of Woerth by Colonel Alfred Bocher, the 3rd Zouaves, to his brother:—

SAVERNE, August 7.

Let us thank God, who saved me yesterday from the most terrible dangers a soldier could incur. It is a miracle that I still live, without a scratch and in perfect health. My heart is broken and torn. My poor officers! my poor soldiers! I dare not tell you how many I have lost; it would hurt you too much. Later you will know the names of those you knew, whom you loved, whom you will never see again. They were lions, they were heroes. Of sixty-five officers forty-seven are wounded, dead, or missing. In the morning at half-past seven they were still full of life, of strength, of energy—at two o'clock most of them were no more. The unfortunate Lieutenant-Colonel Desborties was wounded at my side by a ball in the stomach. I was able to press his hand and to bid him farewell as he was carried away. It is to be supposed that he died this evening in the hands of the Prussians. The two commandants, Charnes and Pariset, have been killed. Morland, the third major of infantry, is dead, if he is not a prisoner. Saint-Sauveur is so seriously wounded that I have very little hope. By the greatest efforts I succeeded in getting him taken to an ambulance. A ball had passed through his chest. He was magnificent. Pierron was killed in an instant. Alas! I had better tell you who survive, those who are here with me—Hervé, Saint-Marc, Puymorin, Revin, d'Aiguillon. All the others are in the hands of God. It is the same with my non-commissioned officers: the three adjutants, almost all my sergeant-majors, have been killed. There remain only five of my poor sappers, so good, so devoted. Tiquet and Salomon, who were with the baggage, have been sabred or are prisoners. My horses must have been taken there. My poor black horse was killed under Saint-Marc, to whom I lent him, his own having been previously killed. Of all I had there only remains to me what I have on and 70f. in my pocket. All my baggage, that of the Marshal himself, almost all that of the army, was taken this evening. I have nothing left. But what does that signify when, my heart full of tears, I think of those I have lost! We fought like lions, 35,000 against 100,000, who ended by surrounding us on all sides. General Colson killed, Robert de Vogüé killed, Alfred de Gramont's left arm carried away. . . . The other corps of the army have not suffered like mine, but nearly as much. Marshal MacMahon was admirable. He did all that was possible; but he was not in force against 100,000 men, possessing three times the number of our cannon; he must, however, have greatly injured the enemy; but this is, no doubt, the reason which prevented his pursuing us more vigorously, which would have brought a frightful disaster upon us. Ours was great enough as it was. The battle had begun at half-past seven, after a night of pouring rain, which we had gone through without tents, without fire, and in mud. The day before we had done seventy kilometres in four-and-twenty hours. From the field of battle to Saverne there are thirty-six good kilometres. We did these at night, all in confusion, without stopping, without sleeping. Since Africa I have not changed my linen or clothing. If you saw me you would not know me; I have not washed or shaved myself for five days. I am haggard, I am frightful. If you knew how immaterial all this is to me, how I thank God, and how I should thank him still more if he had spared my poor friends. Ah! war is too great a scourge! We are going to be forced into repose. I have around me but 500 to 600 Zouaves, without bags, without tents, without property, and without provisions; but they have their weapons and they do not complain. Deprived of officers and non-commissioned officers, it would be impossible to bring them back to the combat. We shall probably be sent to Strasbourg to recruit. The regimental chest and the accounts have been taken. The whole regiment must be reconstructed. If they do not name me General, they will leave me for some time in quiet with what remains to me of my brave Zouaves. Colonel Gandil, of the Turcos, has also escaped by miracle, as well as his lieutenant-colonel. The marshal has been very good to me. He pressed my hand and paid me all sorts of compliments. He must be very unhappy, but he is not discouraged. In all the camp I can only find this sheet of paper and this pencil to write to you, which I do in some discomfort, lying on the grass, where I shall pass the night. Saint-Sauveur is cared for, pitied, and admired; but his wound is serious, and he suffers cruelly. . . . What

blood, what tears, what mourning, and all this but just begun!

The *Times* special correspondent with the Crown Prince writes:—"Day by day the unexpected magnitude and importance of the victories of the last week are revealed. The utter rout and demoralisation of MacMahon's army exceed all previous anticipation. The number of killed and wounded is now set down at 10,000. Prisoners continue to be brought in, the number up to the present time being computed at 8,000. Among these are many officers of distinction, who appear greatly dejected. The Spahis suffered severe losses. The Prussian corps, chiefly Polish and Silesian, whom I saw en route at Mayence a week ago, are greatly cut up, having three times been driven back. The latest telegrams from Paris report that MacMahon has rallied some 18,000 of his shattered army, which is to be re-formed at Nancy. One of the captured French officers, on the way to Frankfurt, remarked to his guard, 'Our losses are beyond all description. The entire Army Corps of MacMahon are almost as good as destroyed. It was a fight of which I never saw the like. As often as we repulsed the enemy, so often fresh troops appeared, as if sprung out of the ground. It is incomprehensible to me where your Germans can have found such a horde. All our baggage is lost.' The day following the fight (August 7) the South German Army rested on the field, in excellent spirits, and well supplied with every requisite excepting bread."

Of the 33,000 men whom Marshal MacMahon commanded, he was able to rally but 18,000 after the affair of Reichshoffen. He lost his treasure-chest, baggage, papers, and plans of the campaign. There was not much in the chest, as 3,000,000f. wanted for the next day's payments had not been received.

THE BATTLE OF SPEICHEREN OR FORBACH.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"As to Speicheren, it is wrong to say that the French were in that engagement crushed by superior numbers. We have now a tolerably full report of Generals Steinmetz and Alvensleben, which shows pretty clearly what troops were engaged on the German side. The attack was made by the 14th Division, supported by our old friends, the 40th Regiment—in all fifteen battalions. They alone, of infantry, fought for six hours against the three divisions, or thirty-nine battalions, which Frossard brought up successively. When they were nearly crushed, but still held the heights of Speicheren, which they had stormed in the beginning of the fight, the 5th Division of the 3rd or Brandenburg Corps came up, and at least three out of its four regiments took part in the fight—all in all, either twenty-four or twenty-seven battalions of Germans. They drove the French from their position, and it was only after the retreat had commenced that the head of the 13th Division, which had turned the French right by the valley of the Rossel, reached the field of battle, fell upon Forbach, and turned an orderly retreat into a rout by cutting off the direct road to Metz. The Germans at the close of the fight had another division (the 6th) ready to engage, and, indeed, slightly engaged; but at the same time two French divisions, Montaudon's and Castagny's (both of Bazaine's), had come up, and the 69th Regiment, which forms part of the latter, had suffered severely. Thus, if at Weissenbourg and Woerth the French were crushed by superior masses, they were beaten by inferior numbers at Speicheren. As to their common report that they were outnumbered, it is not to be forgotten that individual soldiers in a battle cannot possibly judge of numbers, and that it is the common assertion of all beaten armies. Besides, it should not be forgotten that the solid qualities of the German army are only now beginning to be organised. We have it officially from the French head-quarters that the German fire is much superior in steadiness and precision to the French, and MacMahon insists that the French have no chance against the Germans in woods, because these latter know so much better how to take advantage of shelter. As to the cavalry, here is what Jennerod says in Thursday's *Temps*:—"Their cavalry is much superior to ours, the privates are better mounted than many officers in our army, and they ride better. . . . I have seen one of their Cuirassier regiments which was something splendid. . . . Their horses, moreover, are far less weighted than ours. The Cuirassiers I saw carried less weight on their big steeds than we do on our small Arabs and South of France horses.' He also praises the great knowledge the officers have of the ground, not only in their own country, but also in France. But no wonder. Every lieutenant is provided with excellent copies of the French ordnance maps, while the French officers are supplied only with a ridiculous map (*une carte dérisoire*) of the seat of war. And so forth. It would have been good for the French army if only one such sincere reporter had been sent to Germany before the war."

The special correspondent of the *Telegraph* visited the field of Speicheren or Forbach. He relates his impressions:—"Until I reached the base of the heights upon which the French had taken up their position, I had no idea of the steepness of the ascent; and, had I been asked if any infantry in the world could storm those heights under the fire of a force posted upon its advantageous ridges, I should have scoffed at the idea as utterly absurd. Nevertheless, the battalions of Germany accomplished what must ever remain a wonder to their brothers in arms. The ascent to the Alma was a farce to this position, as an old Crimean officer and I both agreed. The French had three lines of defence, one above the other, each one of which was more formidable than the one

already vacated; their flanks were protected by thick woods and an open country for them to retreat to in their rear. Everything was in their favour, but notwithstanding this, the Prussians gained a most decisive victory, for at sunrise this morning there was not a French soldier within miles of the Forbach heights. I ascended from the plateau exactly in the centre of the Prussian attack; the hill is covered with brushwood, and rises to a height of some 800 feet above the plain below. As I passed on my way the Prussians were burying their dead, and I stood by and listened to the simple funeral service that was pronounced over the bodies of a lieutenant and sergeant of the 89th Regiment, who were buried where they fell, in one grave. As the bodies, rolled in their cloaks, were lowered, an audible sob by my side made me turn round. I found that it came from a fine, handsome-looking fellow, who apologised to me for his manly grief by saying, 'Ah, sir, I can't help it; he was the kindest friend and the best lieutenant in the regiment.' Proceeding up the hill I found the Prussians lying thick, whilst every here and there the grey coat and red trousers of the 24th French infantry appeared. On the top of the first ridge there were little heaps of French and Prussians mixed, whilst on the second ridge the French uniforms lay thickest. Upon reaching the brow of the hill a heart-rending sight met my eye. It had evidently been the last stand of the 24th; for their uniforms, mingled with the Prussians, lay to the number of seventy-five in a very small space. Facing the road, with a smile on his face, lay the major of the French regiment. In one hand he clasped a sergeant's hand, and in the other a lock of hair wrapped in a bit of paper. Both the sergeant and he must have been shot at the same time. The woods to the left were, as I anticipated, filled with wounded, whose piteous cries were heart-rending to hear. On the crest of the hill the Prussian uniform lay very thick. I counted more than 150 to about 30 of the French. This was the hard-fought-for point, and where all the slaughter took place—I say advisedly, slaughter, for it was nothing less. The unfortunate men were still being carried into Saarbrücken at twelve o'clock to day; I leave you to imagine their sufferings all night long without a drop of water. All branches of the service seemed to have suffered; for I picked up a lancet and some surgical instruments close to the body of a doctor, who had evidently been shot whilst employed in attending to a wounded man. Here I saw a French soldier of the line, his face still bearing a stern, determined look upon it, even in death, while close by his side lay the protector of his Fatherland, with his face to the enemy and his helmet in his hand. The gallant behaviour of the Prussian troops is beyond all question; and after they have taken such a position, defended as it was with the greatest gallantry, France will have enough to do to keep them out of Paris. The Prussian loss in killed and wounded is about 2,700; the French must have lost also very heavily, but not nearly so many as the Prussians. Their victory—for a victory it was—cost them dear, and the battle of Saarbrücken has quite eclipsed that of Königgratz."

A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, in reference to this engagement, says:—"It is evident that the struggle at Speicheren was a desperate one. The Prussian officers I have spoken with all own to very heavy loss; they decline to say how great, as they wish to keep everything of that sort from getting to the enemy's ears. Even to-day, four days after the fight, in more than one spot the bodies lie unburied on the heights, while everywhere the ground is studded with rough wooden crosses marking the graves of those who fell in the storming of the hill. Needle-guns by the dozen cover the ground, while hardly a Chassepot is to be seen; this is not wholly owing to the fact that more Prussians than French fell, but is to be accounted for by the eagerness of the Germans to get a French musket as a relic. The ground itself was well chosen, and as one climbs up the hills wishing for an alpenstock to aid one, it seems wonderful how the Prussians contrived to get up in the face of a heavy musketry fire, backed by three mitrailleurs, which are said to have done great execution at close quarters, though quite harmless at over 500 yards. The hills of sandstone rise very steeply, broken here and there by projecting rocks, about 500 feet above the undulating plain which the road from Saarbrücken to Forbach reaches about a mile from the former town. This plain, or rather plateau, for it is 200 or 300 feet above the Saar, extends for 1,000 yards from above Saarbrücken to the Spicheren heights, falling slightly between the crest of the hill above Saarbrücken and the spurs of the French position. But the whole of this 1,000 yards is a bare plain without a tree or house in which to shelter a rifleman. A Prussian battery of eight guns occupied the crest of the hill above Saarbrücken, and covered the advance on the heights. Two regiments of the line first attempted to take Speicheren, but the fire was too heavy, and they fell back with great loss. Just then a reinforcement came up and two fresh attempts were made on the heights, but the French had got by this time three mitrailleurs into positions, and the Prussians only gained ground inch by inch, and a hand-to-hand fight began all along the heights. There is ample evidence of this in the broken bayonets and rifles which strew the top of the heights for nearly a mile. The French held their ground until dark, when General Zastrow's division arrived through a thick wood on the French right, and took the French in flank. Then they retreated rapidly, the mitrailleurs doing good service in protecting them. Many, however, were caught between General Zastrow's division and the Prussians in front. The two Prussian divisions camped on the roadside and on the heights

for the night, and next morning crossed the French frontier, and marched on Forbach, which, to their great surprise, they found totally abandoned. The French retreat had been so precipitate that they did not even destroy the railroad nor blow up a single bridge. This is to me quite inexplicable; half an hour would have been sufficient to place powder bags in the station and under the bridges, and to have made them useless for several days at least. But nothing has been done to the station or the line, and so quickly did the French retire that they actually left a million of francs in specie and the whole of a pontoon train in Forbach."

WAR NOTES.

Algeria has been proclaimed in a state of siege. M. Edmond About has not been heard of since the 7th. His wife and family are in Paris.

The total of prisoners in Prussian hands is estimated at 15,000. The French have scarcely a hundred unwounded Prussian prisoners.

The Emperor is stated to have expressed his determination to take a personal part in the next engagement.

The baggage of Marshal MacMahon has been taken to Gonstedt, including, among other things, the toilet of his wife.

As proof of the severity of the battle of Weissenburg, a French journal states that one of their standards changed hands twenty-seven times.

A Paris telegram says that the Cent Gardes have been broken up, and the men are to be drafted into various cavalry regiments.

An English squadron, composed of six ironclad and one transport vessel, has entered the Mediterranean Sea.

It is remarkable that Count von Moltke, the Nestor of war on the King of Prussia's staff, is not a Prussian or even a German by birth, but a Dane.

A pontoon bridge has been thrown across the Elbe at Hamburg by the German Generalissimo, and has been found very useful in connection with the movement of troops, stores, and munitions of war.

The seat of war being now far removed from the Swiss frontier, the Federal Council have decided to dismiss to their homes two of the divisions placed on a war footing.

M. de Lousse, deputy for the Upper Rhine, and his wife, are reported to have been killed while defending his chateau against the Prussians. He left Paris for the purpose of defending his property.

According to the *Athenaeum*, Herr Gustav Freytag is one of the four German writers who are allowed to accompany the Prussian armies, in order to chronicle the events of the present campaign.

The King of Prussia has conferred on his son, the Crown Prince, the Order of the Iron Cross of the second class, as a reward for the victory of Weissenburg.

Eye-witnesses of the battle of Weissenburg state that the Prussian infantry seek particularly to pick off the enemy's officers, for whom four practised marksmen to the right of each Prussian platoon are specially instructed to reserve their fire.

The first of the French cannon brought to Berlin has been deposited at the arsenal, and has been formally named "the Douay." It is mounted on a blue painted carriage, dabbled with dried and blackened blood. The "8th Battalion" is scratched upon this trophy.

The *Gazette de Francfort* of the 10th of August says:—"The inhabitants of Woerth having fired upon the Prussians, and been guilty of cruelty (*exercé des cruautés*) towards the wounded Germans, their town has been treated in hostile fashion. Twenty of the offenders were shot upon the spot."

Considering the number engaged upon either side, the obstinacy of the fighting, and the deadly nature of the arms employed, there cannot have been less than 20,000 men placed *hors de combat* in the two armies, excluding the loss at Weissenburg, which was probably from 4,000 to 5,000 more.

The American Bonaparte, as he is called, Jerome Bonaparte, the son of the late Jerome Napoleon and Madame Patterson, has just left New York to join the French army. M. Bonaparte was a pupil of West Point, and has seen service in the American Civil War, in the Crimea, and Italy.

M. Eugène Godard, says the *Sémaphore* of Marseilles, has placed himself at the disposal of the Emperor to direct a corps of aeronauts, equipped with Montgolfiers of his own invention, which may be pierced with a projectile and yet continue their ascent.

The *Journal des Débats* of Monday notes with pleasure the unanimity with which the English journals reports the kindness shown to French prisoners by their German captors. To reassure the families of the prisoners on this subject, the *Débats* prints several extracts from letters which have appeared in the *Times*.

An elderly *paysan propriétaire* and his son were caught *in flagrante delicto* by a patrol of Prussian infantry, in the battle-field, after the storming of the Geisberg—the first murdering a Bavarian soldier with a scythe, the other cutting his initials in the neck of a disabled Prussian chasseur. Both these cowardly assassins were German-speaking men; they were tried at once, found guilty, and shot.

A society has been formed at Frankfurt with the kindly object of giving an opportunity to the prisoners of communicating with their friends. Two or three hundred young men have joined together for this purpose, and some of them attend the arrival of every train conveying captives, and provide them with paper, pens, and ink, and undertake to post the letters for them.

A Berlin manufacturer and resident, Mr. F. R. Egella, who has been deprived of very many hands by the requirements of the war, gives to each wife of

a man thus taken away two thalers weekly, and the third of a thaler, or about one English shilling, to every child. In this manner he relieves, and, to a great extent, actually supports, no fewer than sixty families. Though this is a brilliant example, it is not by any means a solitary case.

Saarbrück was little injured by the French artillery fire of the 2nd, and the railway-station comparatively uninjured. The waiting-room, however (in which no one would have waited very long on that particular day), has been severely shelled, and is partially burnt. The only house in Saarbrücken, or rather in St. Johann, its suburb, connected with Saarbrück by the two bridges (which were not mined), that has been much injured is the Hotel Pfing.

Four captures of vessels under the flag of the German Confederation are reported at Lloyd's. Two were taken off Malaga by a French gunboat, the *Brilliant*, from Taganrog to Queenstown, and the *Perle*, from Taganrog to Amsterdam. The other two were also captured off Malaga by the same gunboat, but their names are not reported. A North-German Lloyd's barque has been taken into Cherbourg by a French man-of-war. Six North-German ships have put in to Harwich to avoid capture.

MACMAHON'S ESCAPE AT WOERTH.—The Prince Achille Murat has paid a flying visit to London—whither he brought his wife and children. The Prince, who returns to his duties, served on Marshal MacMahon's staff at the battle of Woerth. At the close of that well-contested battle, the Marshal, ordering his staff to remain where they were, threw himself at the head of the last charge. His staff, however, insisted on accompanying him, and it was then that General Colson and M. de Vogué and so many others were shot down. The Marshal, who was at the storming of the Malakoff and at many other forlorn hopes, and who has never been wounded, again escaped without a scratch. It is not true that he had a horse killed under him, or that he fainted in a ditch. After this last effort he lighted his cigar, and personally superintended the disastrous retreat in which his guns were lost, owing to the muddy nature of the ground, rendered too soft for the passage of artillery by the heavy rains.—*Morning Post*.

THE ORLEANSIST PRINCES AND THE WAR.—Last week all the members of the Orleans family were at Brussels, whence they despatched communications to France. "François d'Orléans" telegraphs from Spa on the 9th, "Looking at the peril of our country I ask of the Emperor to be employed in any capacity whatever in the active army." "Henri d'Orléans" writes, "You have just called upon all Frenchmen to take up arms for their country. I am a Frenchman, a soldier, and able-bodied. I hold the rank of lieutenant-general. I ask employment in the active army." "Robert d'Orléans" says, "I have the honour to ask for active employment in the army. My most ardent wish is to fight for the defence of our soil even as a private volunteer." These several communications bear the same date, and are so identical in spirit that there is no doubt they have been prepared in concert. They give expression to a very natural desire. Their offers have, as might be expected, been refused by the French Government, and the Duc d'Aumale, the Duc de Chartres, and the Prince de Joinville have returned to England.

MOLTKE'S STRATEGY.—We believe it will be frankly confessed that the settled strategies of Von Moltke in this war were, and are, to attack on every important point with lavishly preponderant strength. Let no man think that this implies want of valour on the side of the Germans. Their scheme of battle is terrible, and it demands the most sternly courageous men to carry it out. Not fighting for "glory," not for territory, but for Fatherland, they execute the work, as it were, commercially, getting as much as possible out of each section. One corps generally engages at a time, and is withdrawn only when it has done its utmost work; but then they keep moving up a perpetual succession of men, and win by "pegging away." The advanced guard, therefore, of a Prussian army is perfectly certain to suffer—witness the 40th, 39th, and 77th at Forbach. But how is so tremendous a game of war possible—a game wherein the battalions of King William are used like battering-rams, which smash themselves, but bring the foeman's ramparts down at last in ruin and chaos? The explanation lies in the astounding figures which are now quietly put on paper from Berlin, detailing the actually existing forces of the Confederation. Thus, the German troops under arms at the present moment, all taken together, are 1,124,000 men. To this prodigious levy, in one fortnight, sprang up the "peace-footing" of 360,000 soldiers; and be it remembered that the statement enumerates no raw recruits, no suddenly levied and wildly equipped Garde Mobiles and Pompiers. They are all educated fighting men; while behind them is still the Landsturm, no weaker at its worst than the French National Guard, raising the organised warlike forces at command of the "man in spectacles" to about two millions rank and file.—*Daily Telegraph*.

THE NEW FRENCH MINISTRY AND THE LEGISLATURE.

There seems to have been a great deal of exaggeration in the accounts published of the excitement and turbulence manifested in Paris last Tuesday. Though great masses of people filled the streets, the immense body of picked troops, nearly 40,000, prevented any outbreak, and no lives were lost.

We have already stated that the Count de Palikao (General Montauban) was entrusted with the formation of a Government. According to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, he was not the first appealed to:—

On Monday evening the Empress sent M. Ollivier to General Trochu, with offers of the War Ministry, which

were refused; the offers were renewed the next day in another form. Her Majesty offered the general all the power which was in her possession if he would only come to the aid of the sinking empire; he was to have the direction of everything. Unfortunately, there was an insurmountable obstacle in the way—General Trochu objected to the regency; at such a moment, too, he declined taking on his shoulders the responsibility of acts which he had condemned, and he declared that nothing would induce him to accept the position offered unless called to power by the Corps Législatif. As a military Government had been determined on, and as General Trochu declined the honour of being First Minister, the post was confided to the Count of Palikao.

The following is a list of the new Ministry:—
Premier and War Minister... Comte de Palikao.
Interior Henri Chevreau.
Justice Grandperret.
Finances Magné.
Marine Rigault de Genouilly.
Foreign Affairs La Tour d'Auvergne.
Public Works Jérôme David.
Commerce Clément Duvernois.
Public Instruction J. Brame.
Council of State Buisson-Billault.

A few words relative to the leading members of this new and (probably) short-lived Ministry. We quote from the daily papers:—

General Cousin Montauban is an artillery officer who made the world acquainted with his name in 1860, when, as the head of the French expedition to China, he took the forts of Takow, burnt an Imperial palace, and shot down the Chinese with astonishing success. Although France is not squeamish about the deeds of her soldiers, and has pardoned strange atrocities done in Algeria, she did not fall into ecstasies over General Montauban's exploits; she found it difficult to believe that the arms of France had won a glorious triumph in the slaughter of half-armed Chinese; and so, when the conqueror came home, and was made Count of Palikao, he was coldly received by an ungrateful nation, and the Corps Législatif refused to vote the pension with which he was to be honoured by the Court. Since that time the Count de Palikao has not been appreciated by the French people, and has lived in comparative obscurity. But he has never lost his faith in the Empire, or coquetted with the Liberal party; and he has never forfeited the favour of his master, who is now to profit by the Count's "vigour." M. Chevreau, who passes from the Prefecture of the Seine to the Ministry of the Interior, has always been a staunch upholder of the Second Empire. His rapid advancement from one good Prefecture to another, and finally to that of Paris, has been due to his proved fidelity. M. Magné, Minister of Finance, has held that office before, under the Absolute régime. Since recent changes he has been very liberal; in short, he is a political chameleon. M. Grandperret is the Procureur-Général who became known to the world at large chiefly by the trial at Tours. M. Clément Duvernois is a journalist and a friend of the Emperor; to please whom it is supposed he was appointed. Admiral Rigault retains the Naval Department. M. Jérôme David (said to be a natural son of the late King Jérôme) served in Africa, and is well known as a deputy of strong Absolutist tendencies and professions. Prince de La Tour d'Auvergne is now Ambassador at Vienna; we must presume he has been asked by telegraph if he accepts office in the new Cabinet; but some people think that, if he had been asked, his name would not figure in the list. M. Buisson-Billault, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Chamber, belongs to the Right Centre; and M. Brame (a disciple of M. Poyet-Quartier, the violent Protectionist), who takes Public Instruction, is a member of the Left Centre.

In contrast with Tuesday the proceedings in the Legislative Body on Wednesday were quiet. A proposal was adopted to declare urgent a resolution to postpone all payments for one month, dating from the 11th of August. M. de Forcade la Roquette read the report of the committee appointed to consider the project brought forward on the previous day. The report accepts Count de Keratry's amendment to call out the soldiers no longer liable of the classes from 1858 to 1863—a step which will furnish about 300,000 men who have seen service, and also to make a levy of all citizens who have been under arms. The committee proposes, moreover, that all men between twenty-five and thirty-five years of age who are unmarried and have no children shall be required to join the army. It is further proposed to raise the grant of 4,000,000*f.* for the assistance of the families of the National Guard to 20,000,000*f.*; and the report concludes with a few vigorous sentences upon the necessity for union among all parties, and for the display of public spirit, which were received with unanimous applause. M. de Forcade la Roquette, before resuming his seat, moved a vote of thanks to the French Army, declaring that it had deserved well of the country. Unanimous cheering, three times renewed, greeted this motion, and the House decided that the President should transmit it to the army. The above propositions were unanimously adopted. M. Estancelin moved that the Legislative Body should sit *en permanence* until the Prussians evacuated France. On a vote there were 117 ayes against 117 noes, and the motion was consequently lost. M. Jules Ferry questioned the Cabinet as to the use it intended to make of the powers conferred upon it by the state of siege, and criticised the repressive measures resorted to. No reply was given by the Government, and the matter dropped.

On Thursday a member of the Left having demanded that a Parliamentary inquiry should be instituted into the conduct of Marshal Leboeuf, this proposal was received with energetic remarks marks of dissent from the Right, and great agitation ensued. General de Palikao, who only replied after being pressed by several Deputies, and the most violent uproar had been aroused, at length said that Marshal Bazaine had the command-in-chief of the army. M. Jules Favre's motion for the armament and reorganisation of the National Guard on the basis of the law of 1831, with some modifications, were unanimously adopted. Subsequently Count de

Palikao said that the late reverses to the French arms would be repaired, and that revenge was both near and certain.

On Friday, Bills increasing the war credits from 20,000,000*fr.* to 40,000,000*fr.*, for giving a forced currency to notes of the Bank of France, and limiting their issue to 1,800,000,000*fr.*, were passed.

In the course of the sitting, M. Gambetta said:—"There must be no misunderstanding nor surprise. It is necessary to know whether we must now care for the safety of the country or for the safety of the dynasty." These expressions were so much applauded by the Left and by the galleries that the President threatened to have the House cleared. The Senate adopted, almost without debate, the proposed forced currency for bank-notes and the measure relative to commercial bills. M. Chevallier opposed the latter, but was silenced.

Relative to Saturday's sitting of the Corps Législatif, the *Times* correspondent remarks:—

The Liberal deputies, especially Gambetta and Picard, speak out boldly, and furnish strong indications of what we are coming to. "The Court must give precedence to the country," said M. Ernest Picard. Every day there are fewer persons who take exception to declarations of this kind. Words have been spoken that thrilled through the Assembly and awed even the most fervent partisans of the old absolutism into silence and submission. With the Prussians overrunning Alsace and surrounding Strasbourg, it is time to make sure that the chief direction of the war is in competent hands. "Who now commands the army?" is the question asked. "Bazaine exclusively the whole army, including the Guard; he has no superior, nor does any one share his authority." It is hoped there is nothing behind that does not meet the eye, no reserve as to the direction of operations, but the Minister's declaration is not in accordance with a recent decree which seems to limit Bazaine's command to three Army Corps. The weighty question of a Committee of Defence has again been brought forward, and the Chamber discussed it in a private sitting. It was rejected. The private debate lasted little more than an hour, and seems to have been hot as well as short. Gambetta is reported to have been very outspoken. Jules Favre also spoke, and the Minister of War replied. The Right was mute, and it is evidently preparing its change of front. The motion for a Committee of Defence was rejected, but "we have a means," said M. Thiers when the public sitting was resumed, "to supply its place. Let the whole Chamber form a committee, and let us pledge ourselves not to quit Paris an instant, any one of us, without special leave from the President. The state of affairs is serious." The Chamber applauded the veteran statesman's proposal. The deputies are at any time to be convoked by the President on the demand of twenty of their number, and it is probable that private sittings will be held. Questions may have to be considered of which it would be unwise to make the discussion public, lest it should too much inflame the people. It is evident that the representatives of the nation daily feel more strongly the responsibility that rests upon them. The welfare of France is at stake, and circumstances may occur in which it would become their duty to adopt the gravest resolutions. The Ministers will hardly dare oppose them, for they would be quickly overthrown, and in that case their successors might be appointed elsewhere than at the Tuilleries.

STATE OF PARIS.

There are now 36,000 picked troops in Paris besides the National Guard, and early last week ten thousand men of the marine infantry arrived from Cherbourg and other ports. The people cheered the troops, and shouted, "À la frontière!" Since Tuesday there have been no disturbances in the capital, and a great many volunteers have been coming forward. The exertions of the military authorities are unceasing. "Two fresh army corps, each of 36,000 men," the Minister of War yesterday announced, "will be in front of the enemy within four days from this time." And he asked the Chamber's permission to withdraw and attend to his incessant work at the War Office. General Trochu, who has been lately spoken of for various high posts, is to command one of these corps, the 13th, now forming at Châlons; and General Vinoy is to be at the head of the 13th, of which the present headquarters are at Paris. One letter from Paris says:—

Could we have a month's respite we should stand upon altogether a different platform; a fortnight would be worth much, for what is greatly needed is time to convey troops and to embody and organise fresh regiments of the old soldiers who have been called upon to serve, and of the most forward of the young soldiers now at drill or daily pouring into the depots. The regiments and battalions of the line still remaining in various parts of France are being moved up to the front, National Guards can do all now required in the provinces; the new military law—unanimously passed yesterday by the Chamber in a sitting which contrasted most favourably by its calmness and dignity with the scandalous uproar of the preceding day—will supply a new army, composed in great part of old soldiers.

Another letter says:—

Up to the Rue Royale, and along the boulevards, there marched last night, between nine and ten o'clock, two very strong battalions of marine infantry on their way to the war. Stout fellows and hardy soldiers they looked, and no mean antagonists for the best of troops. The crowd gathered on their passage, and loudly cheered them. "Vive la Marine," "Vive l'Armée," were the cries chiefly heard, but not a shout of "Vive l'Empereur." That lately frequent cry seems now forgotten. One of the very few mounted officers, riding on the flank of the column, half turned in his saddle, and, with ringing voice and energetic gesture, addressed the people. "Cry not, 'Vive l'Armée,'" he said, "but 'Vive la France!'" And the people readily responded to the soldier's earnest and heartfelt injunction. "May God help and save France!" is the cry now ready to the lips of all, but no man adds, "God bless the Emperor." It is not so much ill-will as oblivion.

An order was published on Sunday by the Minister of the Interior to this effect:—"In execution of the

law proclaimed August 12th, 1870, all citizens aged twenty-one years and over, domiciled for twelve months in the commune, and who do not belong to the Garde Nationale Mobile, are included in the Garde Nationale Sédentaire. Those who are not inscribed on the rolls at their *mairie* are invited to make their declaration within the space of three days." Thus, between the Garde Mobile, the levy of all free men between twenty-five years and thirty-five, and this Garde Sédentaire, every able-bodied man in France will be summoned.

The *Times* Paris correspondent says that the Emperor's downfall is generally spoken of as all but consummated. The people talk of a Republic being close at hand. It is believed that the Emperor has determined not to survive defeat. The *Daily News* correspondent, writing on Sunday evening, says:—

The feeling of the population is more and more hostile to the Emperor. It is openly said in *cafés*, railway trains, and public places, that come what may the Emperor will never again be seen in Paris. People who express this opinion with energy are not now afraid of *mouchards*. The *mouchards* themselves must report that the opinion is becoming universal; but I am bound to report that "no surrender" is the general cry among all classes of the population. They call the Emperor an "imbecile" and his generals a set of courtiers and traitors, but the most rabid anti-Imperialists say that of course the enemy must be driven out of France, and they are under the full impression that the "nation" can and will conquer.

Many thousands are at work upon the fortifications of Paris, and a large number of guns have been placed in position. It is said that the Bois de Boulogne is threatened. One correspondent writes on this subject:—

Nothing could be better devised to alarm the Parisians than the threat thus conveyed of a probable siege. I have not been there to see, but I believe there is not the slightest doubt that the axe was yesterday at work in the Bois de Boulogne. Now, if so, this really is an absurd and odious proceeding, against which it is to be hoped the Paris press will lift up its voice loudly. It is ridiculous to suppose that Paris will ever stand a siege. To say nothing of the impossibility of provisioning it for any length of time (how are stores to be laid in for two millions of people when it took so long to collect supplies for an army of 300,000 men?), how long do you suppose the Parisians would endure a siege? As soon as the enemy get near enough to throw shells into the city there would be a panic and a clamour for surrender, and if the authorities resisted a revolution would certainly ensue. Moreover, it is not believed the Prussians will come here, even if victorious. Faith is placed in the intervention of neutral Europe. It is folly to allow the *corps d'élite* to deprive Paris of its greatest ornament and chief attraction. The Bois de Boulogne, as it now exists, is one of the most beautiful features of this fascinating capital, and certainly largely contributes—more so, perhaps, than anything else—to attract hither and retain here the crowd of wealthy and pleasure-loving foreigners who annually spend so many millions in Paris. To destroy a thing which it would take scores of years and enormous sums to re-establish in its present state, and of which the destruction would positively be an annual heavy loss of revenue to the city and trade of Paris, and to do so for strategic reasons on the chance of Paris standing a siege, is perfectly monstrous.

All the week the police have been engaged in hunting real or imaginary spies in Paris. They have now more substantial game. Some disturbances are reported, on the authority of the *Journal Officiel*, to have occurred at La Villette, one of the outskirts of Paris, on Sunday evening. About 200 men, armed with revolvers, are said to have attacked a post of firemen. The sentinel and a little girl were killed, and several passers-by and policemen wounded. Shouts of "Vive la République!" were raised by the rioters. The crowd were, it is declared, so exasperated by this conduct that they sided with the *sergens-de-ville*, and cried out, "The fellows are Prussians. Death to the Prussians!" At this the rioters fled in all directions, pursued "for several hours" by the police and the people. The *Gaulois* states that one of the persons arrested called himself an Englishman, but spoke with a strong German accent.

Disturbances have occurred at Toulouse, Marseilles, Limoges, Lyons, St. Etienne, and other large towns in France. Another department, that of the Bouches du Rhone, has been placed in a state of siege.

EXPULSION OF GERMAN RESIDENTS IN FRANCE.

It seems that the Germans are being expelled from Paris. They are said to number 40,000. Some have gone of their own accord, having been warned to leave within a certain time, and told that they would be arrested if found in Paris at its expiration. At Cologne, on the 13th, 400 German refugees arrived, and on the 14th from 300 to 400. They belong chiefly to the better class of workmen. It is understood that they were compelled to leave Paris not by the Government, but through the menacing attitude of their Parisian fellow-workmen. Many have arrived at Brussels.

The North German *Gazette*, remarking upon the news of the intended expulsion of German residents from France, says:—

We do not believe that Germany will have any need to exercise her right of retaliation in this matter, or that a German Government will visit as a crime upon French subjects the fact of their having the misfortune to belong to a country which has a Napoleon III. seated on its throne. Frenchmen residing in Germany may tranquillise themselves; they will, like the rest of the world, become convinced that it is Germany that marches at the head of civilisation.

The *Official Gazette* says:—

The allied German Governments, supported by the

unanimous wish of the nation, will take every measure in their power to afford their expelled brethren all help and assistance. But on no account will Germany, mindful of her own dignity, punish French subjects, dwelling peaceably among us, with the same violent act of terrorism with which the French Government seeks to sow discord between two neighbouring peoples that were destined for a more beneficial contention.

The *Journal de St. Pétersbourg* of the 14th says:—"We cannot believe in the intended expulsion of the Germans from France. Such a measure would be a flagrant contradiction to the proclamation of Napoleon of the 28th ult., in which he says—'Freedom and civilisation depend upon our efforts.' We have not heard that French subjects who have not transgressed the laws have been expelled from Germany."

FRENCH MILITARY RESOURCES.

(From the *Pall Mall Gazette*.)

The new Minister of War assures the Chamber that in four days two army corps, 35,000 men each, are to be sent to the front. Where are they? We know that the eight corps of the Army of the Rhine, and the troops intended for the Baltic, with the garrison of Algeria, fully accounted for every battalion of the French army, including the marines. We know that 40,000 men, from Canrobert's corps and from the Baltic expedition, are in Paris. We know from General Dejean's speech in the Chamber that the fourth battalions, so far from being ready, required filling up, and that this was to be done by drafting into them men from the Garde Mobile. Where, then, are these 70,000 men to come from—especially if, as is but likely, General Montauban de Palikao will not part with the 40,000 men in Paris as long as he can help it? Yet, if there is any meaning in what he said, these two corps must mean the troops at Paris and Canrobert's corps, which hitherto has always been counted as part of the Army of the Rhine; and in that case, the only real reinforcement being the garrison of Paris, the grand total in the field will be raised from twenty-five to twenty-eight divisions, seven at least of which have suffered severely.

Then we hear that General Trochu is named chief of the 12th Corps forming at Paris, and General Vernoy chief of the 13th Corps forming at Lyons. The army consisted hitherto of the Guards, and Corps Nos. 1 to 7. Of Nos. 8, 9, 10, and 11 we have never heard; now we are suddenly treated to Nos. 12 and 13. We have seen that there are no troops existing out of which any of these corps could be formed; always excepting No. 12, if that means the garrison of Paris. It seems a poor trick to raise public confidence by creating on paper imaginary armies; yet there is no other interpretation than this to be put on the alleged establishment of five army corps, four of which have been hitherto non-existent.

No doubt attempts are being made to organise a fresh army; but what materials are there for it? There are, firstly, the gendarmerie, out of which a regiment of horse and one of foot can be formed; excellent troops, but they will not exceed 3,000 men, and will have to be brought together from all parts of France. So will the Douaniers, who are expected to furnish the staff for four-and-twenty battalions; we doubt whether they will complete half that number. Then come the old soldiers of the classes of 1858 to 1863, the unmarried men amongst whom have been called out again by special law. These may furnish a contingent of 200,000 men, and will form the most valuable addition to the army. With less than one-half of these the fourth battalions may be filled up, and the rest formed into new battalions. But here begins the difficulty—where are the officers to come from? They will have to be taken from the fighting army, and although this may be effected by a considerable promotion of sergeants to sub-lieutenants, it must weaken the corps from which they are taken. The whole of these three classes will give, at most, an increase of 220,000 to 230,000 men, and it will take under favourable circumstances at least fourteen to twenty days before even a portion of them can be ready to join the active army. But, unfortunately for them, circumstances are not favourable. It is now admitted that not merely the commissariat, but the whole of the French army administration was utterly ineffective, even to supply the army on the frontier. What, then, will be the state of forwardness of accoutrements and equipments for these reserves which nobody ever expected to be wanted in the field? It is very doubtful, indeed, whether, beyond the fourth battalions, any new formations will be ready before a couple of months. Then it is not to be forgotten that not one of these men ever handled a breech-loader, and that they are, all of them, totally ignorant of the new tactics inaugurated by that arm. And if the present French line, as is now admitted by themselves, fire hastily and at random, and squander their ammunition, what will these newly-formed battalions do in the presence of an enemy whose steadiness and precision of fire appears to be very little affected by the din of battle?

There remain the Garde Mobile, the levy of all unmarried men up to thirty years, and the sedentary National Guard. As to the Garde Mobile, what little of it ever had any formal organisation appears to have broken down as soon as it was sent to Châlons. Discipline there was none, and the officers, most of them totally unacquainted with their duties, seem to have lost in authority every day; there was not even arms for the men, and now the whole thing appears to be in complete dissolution. General Dejean indirectly acknowledged this by the proposal to fill up the ranks of the fourth battalions from the Garde Mobile. And if this, the apparently organised portion of the levy en masse be utterly useless, what is to become of the

rest of it? Even if there were officers, accoutrements, and arms for them, how long would it take to make them into soldiers? But there is nothing provided for the emergency. Every officer fit for his post is already employed; the French have not that almost inexhaustible reserve of officers furnished by the "one year's volunteers," about 7,000 of whom enter the German armies every year, and almost every one of whom leaves the service quite fit to undertake an officer's duties. Accoutrements and arms appear to be equally absent; it is even said that the old flint-locks will have to be brought out of store. And under these circumstances, what are these 2,000,000 of men worth to France? It is all very well for the French to point to the Convention, to Carnot, with his frontier armies created out of nothing, and so forth. But while we are far from saying that France is irretrievably beaten, let us not forget that in the successes of the Convention the allied armies bore a significant part. At that time the armies which attacked France numbered on an average 40,000 men each; there were three or four of them, each acting out of reach of the other, the one on the Scheldt, the other on the Moselle, the third in Alsace, &c. To each of these small armies the Convention opposed immense numbers of more or less raw levies which, by acting upon the flanks and rear of the enemy, then entirely dependent upon his magazines, compelled him upon the whole to keep pretty close to the frontier; and, having been formed into real soldiers by five years' campaigning, finally succeeded in driving him across the Rhine. But is it for a moment to be supposed that similar tactics will avail against the present immense army of invasion, which, though formed in three distinct bodies, has always managed to keep together within supporting distance, or that this army will leave the French time to develop their now dormant resources? And to develop them to any extent is possible only in case the French are prepared to do what they never have done before, to abandon Paris and its garrison to their fate, and to continue the struggle with the line of the Loire for their base of operations. It may never come to that, but unless France is prepared to face it, she had better not talk about a levy *en masse*.

THE WOUNDED.

Her Majesty the Queen has subscribed 500*l.* to the fund of the National Society for the Relief of the Sick and Wounded in the War, which has been formed in England, and which has already expended nearly all it has received. The funds of this society are impartially divided for the relief of suffering on both sides. Writing from the office, 2, St. Martin's-place, Colonel Loyd-Lindsay says:—"The committee, acting on the best advice, have sent out ten surgeons, and they are determined to continue this mode of action, believing that a battle is at this moment going on, and that the number of army surgeons is quite inadequate to deal with the immense numbers of sufferers resulting from the operations of modern war. Five nurses have also gone to Germany, under the charge of a German gentleman, who will convey them (furnished with a letter from Count Bernstorff) to where their services are likely to be most serviceable. This party carries with it goods to the amount of 500*l.*"

There is also a German ladies' committee, at the head of which is the Countess Bernstorff, who appeal for money and gifts of every description for the comfort of the wounded soldiers. We shall forward them immediately, they say, "to the seat of war, where they will soothe alike the sufferings of friend or foe."

A letter from Berlin says:—

The greatest kindness indeed has been displayed throughout all the towns of Germany through which the prisoners have been conveyed. Everywhere refreshment, wine, and cigars have been offered to them, just as to the Prussian troops. Large numbers of prisoners have passed through this place, and although most of them are terribly downcast at their defeat, all are ready to express their appreciation of the kindness with which they have been treated. It is unnecessary to say that in the hospitals no distinction is made between the wounded of the different nations. Every attention is paid to both. The attendants are all voluntary assistants, and both men and women in all the towns in which hospitals have been erected, vie with each other in kind offices of all sorts to the wounded. At the stations are constant relays of men and women to receive the wounded as they come in or pause for a few minutes before passing on to the town beyond. The women offer refreshments, the men lift the wounded from the trucks, and others place them in carriages, or, if the wounds are severe, carry them on stretchers to the hospital.

One of the administrative staff of the Hessian Railway at Mayence writes:—

Trains after trains are arriving here with wounded of both sides. As they arrive so they are received, the same care and attention being bestowed upon either. Some 500 or 600 French wounded arrived here yesterday afternoon, and together with a number of doctors, Sisters of Mercy, and ladies and gentlemen of Mayence, we washed them, changed their linen, dressed and bandaged their wounds, and administered to their general comforts. Their gratitude, notwithstanding the hatred with which they seem inspired, is touching to witness, and brings the tears into my eyes almost as often as I see them in theirs;—for each drop of wine a grateful glance, for each cigar a pressure of the hand. The unwounded prisoners receive the same treatment and refreshments with the same liberality as our own soldiers, when they left not many days ago for the frontier. The wounded, after having received due attention to their wants, are sent on board the steamboats down the Rhine to Bonn, Dusseldorf, and other places.

A Berlin telegram of the 12th says:—"The Queen of Prussia is personally devoting special care to the

French wounded. She has caused shirts and other small articles to be distributed among the French officers. Refreshments, cigars, &c., are distributed among the French prisoners, as well as among the Prussian troops passing through Berlin, by the Ladies' Committee. German ladies may be seen at the railway-stations acting as secretaries to the prisoners desirous of writing home.

THE NEUTRAL POWERS.

The Duke de Cadore has left Copenhagen without having an interview with the King of Denmark. The news relative to the French defeats has thrown the population into consternation, and there is little fear now that Denmark will depart from her neutrality.

All the correspondence from St. Petersburg and Vienna leads to the belief that Russia and Austria will preserve their attitude of neutrality. Russia refused to listen to the overtures of the English Government unless Lord Granville would include Holland and Denmark. Russia is said to be greatly alarmed lest Denmark should give offence to Count Bismark, and get swallowed up for so doing.

In Italy more troops have been called out for service, probably with a view to put down any Garibaldian rising on the Roman frontier.

The cordial appreciation of the prompt action of England by the Belgians is shown by an address from the Brussels Communal Council to Queen Victoria. It expresses thanks to the Queen and her people for the measures taken by the British Government. The address was to be presented to our Minister at Brussels by the Burgomaster in person. On Wednesday night there was a demonstration at Brussels in favour of Great Britain. Owing to a heavy rain which fell the number of persons present was not large. On Thursday many thousands of the people, accompanied by a large body of the Garde Civique, went to the British Embassy to thank the representative of England for the British Government's efforts in guarding Belgium's neutrality and independence. In the Chamber a sum of 15,000,000 francs was voted for the army, 2,250,000 francs for the armament of Termonde and Antwerp, and 500,000 francs for the armament of the Civic Guard.

Telegrams from Madrid state that great excitement still prevails in that city in consequence of the German victories. The Government had published an amnesty for all political offences, and the measure had caused much satisfaction. Spain is tranquil everywhere.

THE DIPLOMATIC CONTROVERSY.

The Berlin *Official Gazette* of Aug. 14 published a despatch of Herr von Thiele to the Prussian representatives at the South German States, relative to the circular of the Duke de Gramont of the 3rd Aug., in reference to the alleged declaration of Count Bismark, to the effect that he feared the alliance of Austria with the South German States. The despatch says:—

Although doubtless the South German States are convinced that such a fear would not deceive us, yet for the sake of historical correctness that declaration must be declared to be absolutely unfounded. The proposition of disarmament made by Earl Clarendon to Count Bismark, in which the North German Confederation should take the initiative, was relinquished by the former as soon as the considerations were raised on our side, which materially depended upon the fact that the difference existing in the military systems of France and Germany would cause the greatest difficulty in carrying out and controlling a comparative disarmament. In the negotiations referred to, not a single syllable was mentioned in any way threatening the South German States.

The French *Official Journal*, in its bulletin of August 14, says:—"Count Bismark's diplomatic plan for alienating from us England, Russia, Italy, and Spain, has everywhere failed. The sympathies of Denmark are strongly in our favour. Our squadron is before Kiel, and great events are in preparation in that quarter. There can be no question, for an instant, of negotiations for peace. The thought of weakness could not be harboured by any Frenchman."

Another alleged "projected treaty" is given to the world by the *Cologne Gazette*, a copy of which, in Count Benedetti's handwriting, is stated to exist in the archives of the North German Confederation. It is stated to have been delivered to Count Bismark by Count Benedetti in August, 1866, with the intimation that if rejected war would be inevitable. It provided for the restoration to France of Prussian territories which were French in 1814, for the cession to France by Bavaria and Hesse of the territories they possess on the left bank of the Rhine, and the arrangements as to the connection of the Netherlands with the Germanic Confederation, and as to the right to garrison Luxembourg, were to be annulled.

The *Official Journal* of Vienna denies the statement of the *Berlin Post* that Count Beust had taken steps for the convocation of a diplomatic conference, having for its object the re-establishment of peace.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

CONVERSATION WITH THE CROWN PRINCE.—MM. Chabrilat and Cardon, of the *Figaro* and *Gaulois*, give the first instalment of the story of their capture by the Prussians after Woerth in those papers. They were arrested on the charge of having fired on some wounded Prussians, and but for the providential arrival of the Duke of Coburg, MM. Chabrilat and Cardon would certainly have been shot along with their fellow-prisoners. After passing the night under lock and key, and having been roughly treated by the guard, they were led next morning to headquarters, where they were given some breakfast and treated like gentlemen. As they were leaving the Château of Soultz, where the Crown Prince had established his quarters, they saw His Highness, who

entered into conversation with them. He expressed the greatest admiration of the manner in which the Cuirassiers had charged his batteries when protecting the retreat; and it is interesting to learn, now that the question of cavalry being able to support infantry fire is under discussion, what the Prince said. M. Chardon gives his words thus:—"Our infantry decimated them, but they immediately re-formed, as if on parade, and charged back, sword in hand, with marvellous precision." The Prince then spoke of the French artillery, which he declared equal to his own, but not so quick in taking up a position in the front. He said that his army had suffered severely, and but for a certain turning movement would have suffered as heavily as the French. In terminating this conversation the Crown Prince made use of these words:—"I was in Paris at the end of December, and saw the Emperor, who always showed the greatest kindness to my wife and myself. The day that I went to wish him good-bye he said he had at last found a Minister to form a new Cabinet, M. Ollivier. He in no way expected the present war." The correspondents were set at liberty.

THE PRUSSIAN COMMISSARIAT.—So far the Prussian organisation seems to have worked well, as I have heard no complaints from the men of want of food. Bacon and black bread form the men's main diet; that is, they are sure of getting that and wine or beer; if they can obtain anything else, so much the better for them. The knowledge of the country shown by the staff is wonderful. Not only do they know where every village lies, but they can tell at once the amount of stabling to be found in it, whether there is a large church or schoolroom in which men or horses can be quartered. They are well informed as to the accommodation to be got in France, and the staff can say at once how many horses can be stabled in every village from here to Paris.—*Letter from Saarbrück, Aug. 10.*

THE CROWN PRINCE AND THE WOUNDED AT SOULTZ SUR FORÊTS.—The special correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 7th, says:—"I have been the accidental and unseen witness of a little scene just now which is worth recording. A country cart was rumbling down the street with two wounded officers—young men—on their way to the station. An officer on foot beckoned to the driver to stop, and went up to the cart, the occupants of which tried to salute him, but he made a gesture, and leaning over entered into conversation with them for ten minutes, evidently asking after their wounds. On parting he shook each by the hand, and continued his way up the street, accompanied by two other officers. He halted at my quarters and inquired if there were any wounded inside—they had been removed, come to their last resting-place—then went on, and meeting a cart full of wounded soldiers, talked to them each in turn, and so went on visiting the hospitals and the wounded in the most unostentatious manner. It was the Crown Prince. No wonder his men are fond of him. Many did not know him till he had passed on. He told how the soldiers, one and all, seem to rejoice in their wounds, and make light of them for the sake of the cause, and there was an honest exultation in his tone at the honour of commanding such troops."

THE LAST OF THE ENGLISH CORRESPONDENTS AT METZ.—The correspondent of the *Scotsman*, writing from Metz on the 9th, says:—"The French themselves are suffering through want of provisions. Even bread is said to be scarce among them. Certainly as a fact, I know that I have had to pay 10*fr.* for a loaf of brown sour bread at St. Avold. I have the melancholy honour of being the last of the British special correspondents that remain in Metz. Most died on Sunday; the others were escorted out early yesterday morning. They required an escort, for the feeling here against strangers is intense. All foreigners are supposed to be Prussians, and all Prussians are naturally supposed to be spies. I have received an intimation that the military authorities cannot be answerable for my safety against the mob, in case of my being taken in the street. I have, of course, nothing to fear from the officials, but from the mob everything. I saw that plain enough last Sunday, when four of my confrères were arrested. If the French get another defeat, my position here might be perilous in the last degree. Anyway, I am ordered to leave, so I mean to try and make tracks for Luxembourg. The Emperor is here. The Prince Imperial has been sent back to Paris; all the money has been sent out of Metz, and all here are preparing against the advance of the Prussians in case the French lose their great battle at St. Avold. This, however, I can hardly credit, for they are in immense force there, with all the Guard Imperial."

A TRAGIC END.—General Abel Douay, who commanded at Weissenburg, is said to have perished in the following manner:—"When the battle was lost he stood upon a mound watching the last remnants of his division as they descended the hill, decimated by the enemy's fire. He had done everything which was possible to retrieve the day. He had no longer a battalion or a company to fight with. He gave orders to the officers on his staff which dispersed them in various directions, and he descended the slope alone. Arriving at the bottom, he drew a pistol from his holster, killed his charger, and, sword in hand, began to ascend the hill in front of him. Soldiers belonging to various regiments and various arms threw themselves in his way, and tried to stop him. 'Where are you going?' they cried. 'To the enemy,' was the answer; and he marched on, followed by a handful of soldiers. A terrible fire flashed from the summit of the Prussian position, and here and there struck down the men, electrified by the stoical calmness of their general. More soldiers arrived, and again attempted to persuade their chief

to retire, but he pointed with his sword to the top of the hill, and continued to advance. For a time he escaped the balls which killed those marching at his side, but at last he staggered; a soldier rushed forward and caught him in his arms. General Douay was dead." [This story turns out to be a French romance. The General was killed almost as soon as he arrived on the field. His aide-de-camp, who was wounded and taken prisoner, stated so much to the Crown Prince.]

VILLAGE SCENES DURING THE RETREAT TO METZ.—"My narrative broke off last night where the Prussians, having turned the French left, were chasing them and the retiring villagers from the town in the direction away from Metz. Among this retreating and panic-stricken crowd we found ourselves, and we thought it better to continue with them and avail ourselves of their knowledge of roads and by-ways, whereby to get, at all events, to a more comfortable distance from the Prussians. When we had reached the summit of the heights, and were actually out of immediate danger of the Prussian shot and shell—when, in fact, the poor people could think of something beyond the instant peril of life and limb—they seemed suddenly to realise the entire ruin which had fallen upon them. They also began to think of their families and friends, who were all scattered, flying in desperation through the deep woods, where the darkness was deepening with the falling night. Such scenes of anguish and misery I never saw before, and hope never again to see. Mothers who had lost their children seeking for them with frantic cries and gesticulations—old, tottering men and women stumbling feebly along, laden with some of their poor household gods, silent with the silent grief of age—little children, only half-conscious of what all these things meant, tripping along, often leading some cherished household pet, and seeking some friendly hand to guide them; husbands supporting their wives, carrying their little ones (sometimes two or three) on their shoulders, and encouraging the little family group with brave and tender words; the woods ringing with shrieks and lamentations, with prayers to the Saviour and the Virgin. It is impossible to describe in language the sadness and the pathos of that most mournful exodus. If all the world could only catch a glimpse of such a scene, I will venture to say that war would become impossible; that fierce national pride and Quixotic notions of honour, and the hot ambitions of kings and emperors and statesmen, would be for ever curbed by the remembrance of all the pity and the desolation of the spectacle." The writer then gives an amusing narrative of the troubles he encountered on his way back to Metz. He was arrested so many times on suspicion of being a Prussian spy, that he almost began to believe that he was one. At Metz he was again detained, and after a polite examination by a French general, was recommended to leave the town that night under pain of re-arrest and unpleasant consequences. "I produced my commission from the *Times*. He said he had a great respect for England and for the *Times*, but that my expulsion was not exceptional, that every alien whatsoever, be he journalist or tourist, was sent away; that the French journalists also were expelled, and that even Frenchmen, not inhabitants of Metz, were forbidden to remain in it; that the same rule would be enforced in all towns within the area of the war; and, in short, that I had better go to Paris by the seven o'clock train, which would give me an hour or so for dinner at the buffet under the superintendence of a gendarme. I was not sorry to obey the order and get out of this atmosphere of suspicion, which was most irritating, and so ended my three days with the French army."—*Letter in the Times*.

MISMANAGEMENT OF THE FRENCH GENERALS.—As to the feeling in the whole army against General MacMahon and the leading officers, it is something tremendous. "What was your plan?" they keep asking. Why weaken our forces by occupying such a long line when the enemy was only a few miles distant, and it would be impossible for us to concentrate at a given point when the enemy might be upon us at every moment? Why march against Saarbrück when the whole army was not yet in a position to engage in separate battles? Not half of the African corps had arrived. Thousands of men had not yet joined their regiments, and as to speaking of the commissariat department, it has proved truly inefficient. It is not a question of time—it is a question of military organisation. The Prussian system is so easy and simple that an army, however numerous it may be, is sure to meet with no such inconveniences as have been experienced on this occasion by the French. What moral influence can a general such as MacMahon have in his army when the men, even the most uneducated, see with their own eyes the mismanagement of the whole undertaking? What can men think of their generals, and with what heart can they combat to invade a hostile country when food and straw and hay, and all that is requisite for an army, is wanting them in their own country?—*Metz Correspondent of the Daily News*.

AFTER THE BATTLE OF WEISSENBURG.—It had been a terrible night for the troops. Men who looked like mud-heaps lay in sodden slumber by the roadside or in the fields; others had fallen exhausted on the necks of their horses, and the universal uniform was mud, but the Prussians particularly looked very grim, resolute, and full of fight. Indeed, of their powers in that way there was abundant evidence on every side. The "Route Impériale de Strasbourg," on which we were travelling, runs through a charmingly-wooded undulating country by fields of corn and hops, potatoes and cereals of all sorts still uncut, now never to be gathered in this year. About the stone which marks the 50th kilometre from Strasbourg began the signs and tokens of the severe

combat of the day before yesterday, which I was not so fortunate as to witness. The fields were all trampled under foot and covered with a prodigious quantity of gutted knapsacks, French laced boots, shakos and cavalry caps, jackets, tunics, and mess-tins for miles on both sides. Here and there lay a dead horse, and burial parties were still busy in the fields. Overturned baggage-cars, empty canteen-boxes, broken Chassepots, sabres, bayonets, &c., were strewn by the road-side, and now and then a waggon came along from the south filled with prisoners—men with pale faces bound in cloths stained with blood, broken limbs, soiled, and miserable-looking. In the two or three villages on the road the windows were broken, the doors, walls, and roofs pitted and perforated with shot and shell. Rudeltz is the name of the last place where the French made a stand. The houses were shut up. A few women, children, and old men haunted the doors of these shattered dwellings. One village restaurant was a specimen of all. "We have nothing," said the old man; "no bread, no wine, no meat, no corn. All is gone. God help us!" He said that the French drew the plugs out of the casks when they had drunk enough to prevent the Prussians refreshing themselves in pursuit.—*Dr. Russell in the Times*.

THE MARSEILLAISE.—A word concerning the "Marseillaise." It has lost its effect. I have heard it sung at two different places of public entertainment with all the pomp and circumstance which good singing, good acting, good music, and abundant banners and supernumeraries could give to it, and it fell as flatly as a bad sermon. In the first instance there were three singers on the stage, the chief of whom was dressed as one of the soldiers of the Revolution of '93, cocked hat, red lappels, and sword complete. He waved a tricolour banner, and sang, and knelt, and invoked with admirable enthusiasm. His companions, one in the uniform of a Chasseur de Vincennes and the other a youth in the Garde Mobile dress of to-day, also waved tricoloured flags, and knelt, and made the solemnly patriotic appeals which three short weeks ago stirred the average Frenchman into frenzy. But it was like whipping a dead horse. The audience seemed dead or stunned, and sipped their liquor calmly or chatted in under tones, as if they thought the great national song were malapropos, or as if they had not the heart to join in it under present circumstances. This was at the Café des Ambassadeurs in the Champs Elysées, where the "Marseillaise" is put forward as one of the attractions of the evening, the hour at which it is sung advertised beforehand, and the people supposed to flock to hear it with all their might. The Alcazar d'Été is but a stone's throw from it, and gives its version of the "Marseillaise" with even greater elaboration. There are some fifty singers on the stage, men dressed in most revolutionary blouses and armed with guns and bayonets, women dressed as street lads waving tricoloured banners, and women as patriotic heroines with not much dress to speak of. These joined in the great chorus, and tried hard to stir the hearts of their auditors. All in vain. The seats at each place were only a fourth filled, and the people occupying them seemed half asleep. One stout gentleman essayed to lead a chorus, but the attempt was a failure, and as he subsided into hiccups before the song was over his enthusiasm was neither effective nor contagious.—*Daily News letter from Paris*.

PRINCES IN THE WAR.—Behind the Crown Prince, the Princes of Weimar and Meiningen, Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern, the innocent pretext of the war, and Duke Ernest of Coburg-Gotha, rode also the staffs of the Wurtemberg and Bavarian armies. Beyond those of the Princes, the uniforms bore no external display. Everything about them was simple, solid, serviceable. An English colonel's uniform was remarked as the most showy.—*Letter from the German Front*.

A SCENE ON THE BATTLE-FIELD OF FORBACH.—A military correspondent writes:—"I saw whole waggons full of women and girls moving on the battle-field, heedless of the bullets still dropping around, busied in refreshing the wounded and in assisting to help and to bind up their wounds. The news of the Crown Prince's victory arrived on the battle-field, and greatly inspired the attacking force. While the French newspapers are crediting Von Moltke with framing combinations of the most subtle character for the conduct of this engagement, reports from the scene report it as having been fought against his intention; a collision of troops led to a general action, the area of which kept expanding until near the close of the day."

WOUNDS BY THE CHASSEPOT AND MITRAILLEUSE.—Rather contrary to general expectation, the wounds inflicted by the Chassepot turn out to be neither so large nor so tearing as those caused by the needle-gun. The Chassepot bolt makes a clean small wound, and penetrates very deeply, at from three to four hundred yards. It seldom breaks bones, being generally turned off when it encounters them. The mitrailleuse projectile, however, is a much more dangerous and damaging customer; fortunately, the mitrailleuse appears to be a very hit-or-miss sort of weapon, effective only at a very short range, and very clumsily handled by the men in charge of it. Altogether, I am assured that, whilst the French expenditure of ammunition is something enormous and even unprecedented, the shooting of the French liners is as bad as it can be—devoid of accuracy, spasmodic, and over hasty. The artillery is—justly or unjustly, I cannot say which—subjected to the same censure by Prussian officers of experience. As to the cavalry, there has been no opportunity of testing that arm on either side as yet.—*Letter from a German Hospital*.

THE FRENCH PRISONERS AT BERLIN.—This circular railway, on the level with the road, has in the pro-

cess of time been lined with houses, and is, in fact, now a street railway. Dense masses of people stood all along it. At last I was overtaken by the train, and let it pass. But how had its aspect changed! It looked as never railway trains had looked before. The fraternisation of the prisoners with the boys had become perfect; numbers of the latter had crept into the carriages, and were sitting between the legs of the French and the Africans, wearing their caps. Several had provided themselves with cats. Those that could not get into the crowded carriages had climbed on the top of them, where they amused themselves by standing on their heads and brandishing their legs. There were no stairs, or protruding boards, that boys were not sitting upon. Seen from a distance the train looked like a Buddhist idol, with thousands of legs and thousands of arms protruding in inconceivable directions. There was a young, tall, fleshy, beardless Arab, with a fair skin, and extremely handsome face, who excited general attention because he looked altogether like a woman. The people, in fact, imagined that he really was a woman, and the ladies had presented him with a fan, with which he kept on fanning himself and smiling in the most arch and coquettish way, being evidently accustomed to have his fun with the public. I reached the terminus of the Eastern Railway by a short cut before the train, but could get in with great difficulty, owing to the immense crowds by which it was surrounded. The densely-peopled neighbourhood, the seat of the Berlin shawl manufacture, had poured forth still greater masses than were visible at the west of the town. Here the attempt to admit by ticket only had perfectly broken down. I dare say that there were not less than 50,000 people inside the terminus. Even the huge supper place for the prisoners was filled to the brim, thus rendering their passage to their seats extremely difficult. The greatest efforts made by the police were of no avail; only the persuasive powers of the "secular" ladies, who presided here, made the crowd yield. The prisoners got each a large basin of *bouillon au riz*, more than a quarter of a pound of boiled beef, bread and cheese, a pint of beer, and a cigar, everything—I tasted them myself—of the very best quality. As 800 had been expected instead of 500, the strongest appetite could be satisfied. Supper finished, the ladies presented correspondence cards to the prisoners to write to their friends, with a promise that they should be safely forwarded either to the French head-quarters or directly from Brussels. A greater number of the French than was expected could write; for those that could not the others acted. It rendered the French extremely at their ease to be waited upon by so many pretty and elegant girls, who all fluently spoke French.—*Letter in Daily News*.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.—The *Patrie* says that the Emperor, solicited by some of his Generals to return to Paris, replied, "Dead or victorious." The *Paris* correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"I find a strong impression on the minds of many people, even of some who know the Emperor well, that he would not survive defeat. I spoke for some time to-day with one of Napoleon's personal friends, who has known him for half his life, has never accepted anything from him, and whom I believe to be sincerely attached to him, as are many of those who have known him intimately, and have had opportunities of appreciating his kindness of heart and amiable qualities." The gentleman in question evidently thought it consistent with the Emperor's character to throw away his life in the hour of crowning defeat. The *British Medical Journal* is informed, on good authority, that the Emperor's health has suffered considerably from exhaustion and fatigue. Baron Larrey and M. Nélaton have prohibited the active exertions which the Emperor wished to make. The *Daily News* states that M. Thiers said in the French Chamber, on Thursday, that the Empire was henceforth out of the question—the Republic must inevitably succeed the Imperial régime.

WOMEN ON THE BATTLE-FIELD.—The special correspondent of the *Telegraph*, writing from Saarbrück, August 7, says:—"The way in which the people of Saarbrücken have behaved to the wounded will ever be remembered as one of the great features in this struggle for Fatherland. The women were absolutely running about on the field of battle giving drink to the wounded, and every house in the town at once turned itself into an hospital. Country carts, with wine and estates, lined the road to Forbach, and all possible means to alleviate suffering were employed. The wounds were almost all Chassepot bullet wounds, and are much less dangerous and ugly than those made by the larger Prussian bullet. Most of the wounds from the Chassepot are in the head and feet, whilst those from the needle-gun are in the body."

GERMAN STADINESS IN BATTLE.—The French soldiers stood their ground well. Their rifles proved terribly destructive. It was downright hard fighting which enabled the Germans to claim the honours of that day. A wounded French prisoner avowed in my hearing that his countrymen could not withstand the weight of the German attack. The fight being one not of bullets only, but of bayonets also, it was decided at last by the actual strength of the respective combatants. From a physical point of view the average German soldier is undoubtedly a heavier man than the ordinary French soldier. He has a broader chest and sturdier limbs. It was supposed that the new weapons would so alter warfare as to render the old style of hand-to-hand combats as obsolete as the encounters of mailed knights. But this engagement has proved the hollowness of that argument.—*Letter from Mannheim*.

GERMAN PATIENCE.—The Germans are certainly a most patient, good-humoured race. I was standing in the station watching the strange and motley

groups around me. Some French officers had by mere mistake been overlooked, and had received nothing to eat. Just before the train moved off, one of them approached a committeeman, and, touching his "kepi," said that he was really very sorry to mention such a thing—but that the fact was, they were literally starving. The poor committeeman was in a terrible state of consternation, apologised profusely, and rushed off to procure something for them from the refreshment room. On his way he met a man loaded with rations of ham and black bread. Seizing on these, he thrust them in to the French officers. One of them tasted the bread, and threw it out of the carriage, with the expression "that it might be good for beasts, not for men." Most men would have been indignant, and replied that if they did not like it they might leave it; but my good-natured Prussian, apologising still more vehemently, said he was sorry there was no time to procure anything better, but that he would telegraph to the next station and have breakfast ready for them. If that is not showing consideration to the enemy, I do not know what is.—*Letter from Mannheim.*

GENERAL CHANGARNIER AND THE EMPEROR.—*Figaro* describes the arrival at Metz of General Changarnier in the following manner:—"An aged man dressed in grey trousers, with straps, and a closely buttoned great coat, his hat sunk in his shoulders, crossed the anxious and disturbed town of Metz, and, coming from the railway-station, bent his course towards the prefecture. A steady rain came down towards nightfall and drove the spy-hunters into their houses, otherwise the individual in question would scarcely have reached his destination without hindrance. On arriving at the prefecture he entered the courtyard, ascended the steps, and found himself before a Cent Guard, of whom he inquired for the usher. The soldier looked at the old man so wet and muddy. Perhaps he would have refused him admittance had he not experienced that impression well known to soldiers by which those who are accustomed to obey recognise those accustomed to command. The usher was now sent for by the orderly, who, when he saw the visitor, obeyed him with even greater readiness, so that in a few seconds General Reille was informed that General Changarnier wished to speak to the Emperor. This name had a magical effect; the Emperor, who was alone, ordered the general to be immediately admitted. These two men, who had not spoken to each other for nineteen years, were now face to face. "Sire," said the general, "France is in danger; I am an old soldier, I come to offer you my experience and my sword. My sword is, perhaps, not worth much, for I am seventy-eight years of age, but I think my head is still good." The door was shut, and the interview lasted two hours. When it again opened the Emperor spoke. "Get dinner for the general," said he; "he has not eaten since this morning." . . . Also tell the Count d'Aure to choose horses for the general: he belongs to us, gentlemen; let his apartment be prepared." Since then the Emperor and the general have been inseparable; the old soldier having come straight off on hearing of the disaster, had nothing with him; linen and clothes had to be found for him. The Emperor is delighted, and the presence of this glory of the past has had a good effect upon the officers who saw Changarnier with the Emperor at Faulquemont.

MILITARY SERVICE IN GERMANY.—On a ramble in the evening I met a body of soldiers, who were marching to the station on their way to the field of action. Some were singing patriotic songs, in which the crowd occasionally joined, and some exchanged jests with those who were watching their departure. Friends walked by the side of some, and here and there a woman was to be seen, hurrying on as quickly as she could to keep pace with the husband she was unwilling to leave till the last moment. Once or twice I noticed a strong, brave man looking wistfully on the standers-by, as if anxious to bid one more farewell to some well-loved face that was not there. As I turned away I could not but feel how much more deeply a war affects Germany than any other country, since the German army is not a caste, but the German people in arms. As the liability to military service is universal, there is no abrupt line of demarcation between the army and the citizens. On this fact more than anything else I base my hopes for the future peace of Europe. Germany, it is clear, has now become a power of the very first class, and, in alliance with England, she will be able to secure the peace of Europe, which, like England, she intensely desires; for here no pampered troops demand a periodical dose of excitement; no class of society, however high, can afford its national vanity a cheap gratification by sending a hired or conscript army into the field. A campaign leaves a place vacant in almost every household, and the sorrow caused even by a victory is felt by rich and poor alike. Hence every war which is not prompted by true patriotism and the instinct of self-defence cannot but be unpopular. No gain of military prestige, however great, can fill up the gaps it is sure to leave in thousands of families. For purposes of aggression the Prussian system is probably the worst now in force on the Continent; it is equally unfitted to prop the tottering throne of a tyrant, but I know of none better calculated to secure the safety and independence of the country.—*Letter from Frankfurt.*

THE NIGHT AFTER WOERTH.—Writing at the Prussian head-quarters, Aug. 7, the day after the great battle, Dr. Russell says:—"Last night, in a poor little cabaret, there sat, in company with Lord R. Gower, Colonel Walker, Prince William of Wurtemberg, Count Seckendorff, &c., the unwilling cause of this grand campaign, Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern, very well pleased to reject the title

of 'King of Spain,' and as they were at table the strains of what we call 'God Save the Queen' were heard, and they rushed out to welcome the Crown Prince, but His Royal Highness dismounted in front of the village school and went at once to his own apartment. In the room below 'the suite' in which Colonel Walker, Lord R. Gower, and myself are lodged, in a baker's house, there are six French officers, fearfully, if not mortally, wounded, lying on heaps of straw, and all the tenements, from which hang the white flag and the red cross of the blessed Geneva Convention, are filled with the wounded. The baker has just come up to entreat protection against some Prussians who are taking away his flour. But stern necessity requires it. 'We have,' says the officer in command, '2,000 wounded French who have no food.' The heat is great, and myriads of flies infest us. There is a scarcity of water."

GERMAN REINFORCEMENTS TO THE FRONT.—An immense force is concentrated about Coblenz. Landwehr regiments are pouring in every day, Prussia has plenty of men to keep up communications and garrison the towns without drawing upon the main armies.—*Letter from Saarbrück.* At this moment, a movement is in progress which will have the result of greatly strengthening the army which is now encamped on French soil. An additional 200,000 men will soon be ready to afford, if necessary, an active support to the army commanded by the Crown Prince.—*Letter from Frankfurt.*

(Continued on page 786.)

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 17th, 1870.

THE WAR.

THE BATTLES NEAR METZ.

The following telegrams are published this morning:—

"PRUSSIAN HEAD-QUARTERS, HERNE,
"August 16.

"Yesterday, the 14th inst., at about four in the afternoon, our advanced guard before Metz believed they saw signs of a retrograde movement of the French corps which were still encamping under protection of the fortress. Without delay the brigade of General Goltz attacked the rear-guard of General Decaen's corps, formerly the corps of Marshal Bazaine, and succeeded in engaging it in such a severe encounter, that the whole corps and some detachments of the troops under General Froesead were obliged to hasten to the front to its assistance.

"General Glumer then led his 2nd Brigade (East Saxons) at once to the front, and the divisions of Generals Kamecke and Wrangel opportunely engaged in the fight on the left wing, and ultimately drove back the enemy on all points behind the works of the fortress.

"In the meantime, the French corps under General Ledmirault had endeavoured to fasten upon the right flank of the 1st Army Corps, but was attacked by General Manteuffel's reserves, who advanced to the beat of the drums, and, storming successively the positions held by different detachments of the enemy, drove them back into the fortress in an equally decisive manner as in other parts of the field. The troops of this wing pushed on as far as Belle Croix and Bony, within range of the advanced forts.

"This morning His Majesty the King made a reconnaissance of the battle-field, and inspected the arrangements made for the safe removal of the Prussian and French wounded.

"From the Prussian outposts, occupying the same ground as before the battle, and from the most elevated spots around, nothing could be seen of the enemy on the right bank of the Moselle. Thick clouds of dust, which were visible on the opposite side of the river, lead to the conclusion that the bulk of the army has withdrawn."

"BERLIN, August 16, 3 p.m.

"The King has sent the following despatch to the Queen, dated Herby, August 15, 7.30 p.m.:—

"I returned from the field of battle at Metz at three o'clock to-day. The advanced guard of the 7th Army Corps attacked the retreating enemy at about five o'clock yesterday evening. The latter made a stand, and was reinforced gradually by troops from the fortress. The 13th Division, and a part of the 14th, supported the advanced guard, as also parts of the 1st Army Corps. A very bloody fight ensued along the whole line, and the enemy was thrown back at all points. The pursuit was continued up to the glacis of the outworks. The nearness of the fortress allowed the enemy in many instances to secure his wounded. After our wounded had been secured, the troops marched to their old bivouacs at dawn. The troops have all fought with incredible and admirable energy, and also with enthusiasm. I have seen many and have thanked them heartily. The rejoicing is really affecting. I have just spoken to Generals Steinmetz, Zastrow, and Manteuffel."

[FRENCH ACCOUNT.]

PARIS, Aug. 16, 4.25 p.m.

In to-day's sitting of the Legislative Body, General de Palikao, in answer to an honourable member, stated that the Prussians had relinquished their

intention of cutting the line of retreat of the French army, and of preventing the junction of the different corps. The Minister added that telegrams received from the Gendarmerie, but bearing no official character, announce that the Prussians have fallen back upon Commercy, after three or four successive engagements, and that consequently the enemy had suffered a check. Count de Palikao further declared that a new army, of which the command-in-chief has been entrusted solely to Marshal Bazaine, is now ready to support the Army of the Rhine.

The Legislative Body then adopted M. Jules Ferry's proposal to incorporate in the Mobile Guard the classes of 1865 and 1866, with some modifications; the cases of exemption, as laid down by the law of 1832, remaining in force.

"PARIS, August 16 (Evening).

"No full details have yet been received of the battle at Longeville. It appears that Generals Ledmirault and Decaen manoeuvred so as to bring the Prussians under the fire of Fort St. Quentin, causing them thereby considerable loss. General Decaen has been wounded.

"The Emperor's despatch, dated Longeville, the 14th inst., was addressed to the Empress, and—the *Gaulois* says—was countersigned by Marshal Bazaine, as Commander-in-Chief.

"It is believed that Marshal Bazaine will not risk a decisive battle until the enemy are near Chalons.

"45,000 men left Paris on the 13th for Chalons.

"Volunteering is going on in Paris and throughout France with immense activity.

"Seventy-five persons have been arrested in consequence of the affair at La Villette.

A despatch of the Sub-Prefect of Verdun, dated Tuesday, 6.10 a.m., says:—"Nothing new has been received from Metz. Throughout yesterday cannon were heard between Metz and Verdun, and travellers who have arrived at Verdun report that a great battle had been going on since the morning.

"In the action of the 14th the Prussians are said to have lost 40,000."

"Yesterday the fight was going on at the extremity of my arrondissement, twenty-eight kilometres from Verdun. At this point the enemy were seen executing a retreat to the southward. But I give this information under reserve."

[* So received at Reuter's office. Query 4,000 men.]

(From the Daily Telegraph.)

The simple story of Sunday's battle seems to be, that the French, clinging courageously to Metz, to win time for the retreat of MacMahon on the one hand, and the arrival of reinforcements from Paris on the other, began in earnest to draw off on Sunday towards the line of the Meuse and the Argonne Forest. The Prussians endeavoured to overwhelm their rearguard; but, delivered from the enfeebling and distracting presence of the Emperor, Marshal Bazaine acted on energetic counsels, and did his very utmost to make his retreat respected. The mere fact that a total rout was not the result of this battle—fought by 60,000 men for four hours, against 70,000—seems to have encouraged the Emperor, receiving reports at a distance from the actual scene, to call it a victory; and a victory it was devoutly believed to be in Paris on Monday. At the very utmost, it was no more than a plucky and well-sustained affair of rearguard, in which the assailed party, having resolved to retreat, resolved to retreat showing a firm countenance and striking sturdy blows. Even from the King of Prussia's own report, we are disposed to anticipate that the campaign is about to enter on a new phase. The French commanders must speedily make an end of retreating, if they would not give up the game altogether. The announcement of the Count de Palikao yesterday, that the Prussians, who had advanced beyond Commercy—midway between Toul and Bar-le-Duc—have been driven back, after three or four engagements, indicates sufficiently that the Imperial commanders mean to make a strong stand at the Meuse.

THE NOMINATION FOR THE CITY OF DUBLIN (the representation of which has been vacant ever since Sir A. Guinness was unseated) took place yesterday. The candidates were Sir Dominic Corrigan (Liberal) and Mr. King Harman, who is for a Parliament on College-green, and Ireland for the Irish. The proceedings were stormy. Mr. Harman had the show of hands. The polling takes place to-morrow.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Although the corn market was fairly attended to-day, the grain trade ruled quiet, and Monday's reduced quotations were with difficulty supported. The supply of both new and old English wheat was limited, while the arrivals from abroad were tolerably good. The inquiry for all descriptions was inactive, at barely late rates. Barley was in scanty supply, nevertheless it was fully adequate to the demand, which was low, at about previous currencies. Malt was dull, on former terms. Oats, the supply of which was large, experienced a slow sale, at scarcely Monday's prices. Beans and peas were in moderate supply. The trade ruled dull, and the tendency of prices was drooping. There was a steady demand for barrel flour, which was chiefly for French requirements, it being the most easy for transport, consequently prices were well maintained, otherwise the trade was quiet.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English & Scotch	220	—	650	100	—
Irish	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign	6,500	400	—	44,200	220 shs.
					Mais, 10,500 qrs.

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MRS. BAYNES and her Sisters, the Misses
BEARD, have REMOVED from Denmark-hill to a larger
house at **HAMPSTEAD**, where their PUPILS will REAS-
SEMBLE early in SEPTEMBER. Prospectuses will be for-
warded on application to Mrs. Baynes, Mount View, Green-
hill, Hampstead, N.W.

AT the HALF-YEARLY MEETING of
the DEPUTIES of the THREE DENOMINATIONS,
—PRESBYTERIAN, INDEPENDENT, and BAPTIST, in
and within twelve miles of London, appointed to protect
their civil rights, held at the CITY TERMINUS HOTEL,
CANNON-STREET, on the 10th of August, 1870;

C. BREED, Esq., M.P., in the Chair;
Moved by W. H. MICHAEL, Esq.; seconded by J. E.
SAUNDERS, Esq.:
That the Deputies highly disapprove the conduct of the
House of Lords in obstructing the passing of the Universities
Tests Abolition Bill.
The public feeling in favour of the Bill, both in the Univer-
sities and throughout the country, and the large majorities
obtained in the House of Commons whenever the opponents
of the Bill ventured on divisions there, encourage the Deputies
to hope that the Bill will become law next year.
They earnestly invite the Government to bring forward the
Bill early next Session, and to press it forward vigorously.
Moved by T. C. CARTER; seconded by J. BENNETT, Esq.:
That the thanks of this Meeting be presented to Osborne
Morgan, Esq., M.P., for his efforts to obtain the passing of
the Serial Laws Amendment Act. The Deputies earnestly
request Mr. Morgan to introduce the Bill early next Session,
and tender him their warm support.
Moved by J. CARYELL WILLIAMS, Esq.; seconded by
WM. NATHAN, Esq.:
The Deputies congratulate their constituents on the success-
ful resistance of the Government to the proposal of a small
majority of the House of Lords to introduce into the Census
Bill words requiring a return of the "Religious Professions"
of the people, such return being offensive to many and certain
to prove delusive. The Deputies are of opinion that a return
of the number of attendants at places of worship on a given
Sunday next year, in continuation of a similar return made
on the taking of the Census in 1851, would have been of great
service, and might have been easily obtained.
C. SHEPHEARD, Secretary.

78, Coleman-street, E.C.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1870.

SUMMARY.

A WEEK ago the German armies were slowly
advancing over the frontier. Now we hear of
the Crown Prince near to Nancy, and of the
Prussian cavalry levying contributions and tear-
ing up railways near Commercy, half-way be-
tween Paris and Forbach. All the passes of
the Vosges are in the hands of the victorious
invaders, who have left no enemy behind them
but the garrisons of Metz, which has been
evacuated by Marshal Bazaine, and of Stras-
bourg, which is formally invested by Baden
troops. This astonishing progress of the Ger-
man arms is due partly to the character of the
victories at Weissenburg, Woerth, and Forbach,
the magnitude of which was for some time un-
known to themselves, and partly to the skilful

strategy of General Moltke, who directs the
movements of the invading forces.

While Marshal MacMahon was hastening
with the *débris* of his corps towards Chalons,
closely pursued by the Crown Prince—and he
has succeeded in effecting his retreat—the re-
mainder of the French Army of the Rhine
was concentrating around Metz. Heavy rains
have interfered with military operations on both
sides, but the Germans have had the use of the
French railways, which were little damaged
during their hasty retreat from the frontier.
Up to the end of last week probably 400,000
German troops in three great armies had
crossed the French frontier, and the provinces
of Alsace and Lorraine were virtually in their
possession. King William, whose head-quarters
were at Herry, a few miles south of Metz,
issued a proclamation announcing that he was
not making war upon the French people but
upon the French army, that they need not fear for
their private property, and that all the provi-
sions taken in the line of march would be duly
paid for by arrangement.

On Sunday, the long pause in active opera-
tions came to an end. The Emperor left Metz
for Verdun, leaving behind him a proclamation
addressed to no one in particular, commending
the defence "of this Boulevard of France to your
patriotism." With His Majesty apparently re-
tired the mass of the army, estimated altogether
at 200,000 men, leaving probably some 70,000
as the garrison of that fortress. His Majesty
says he is going to fight the invader, and that
he hopes "in happier times to return to thank
you for your noble conduct." At that date he
was still, nominally at least, taking upon
himself the functions of commander-in-chief.
There were desperate conflicts near Metz
both on Sunday and Monday, but their
precise significance and results are not
at present very clear. It would appear
that on the former day two German
corps attacked the French rearguard, which
after great losses was obliged to retire within
the lines of the fortress. But King William's
despatch makes no mention of captured prisoners
or guns. The main body of the retreating army
seems to have been taken in flank somewhere
between Metz and Verdun, by the Germans, who
were, according to a French account, seen re-
treating southward. On these events the
Standard remarks:—"We incline to believe
that the Prussians did endeavour, with the
inadequate forces which only they had
as yet succeeded in bringing across the
Moselle, to attack the main French army in
its retreat, but that they were repulsed. If this
be the case, it is probable that the Prussian
forces employed were from the army of Prince
Frederick Charles, who had crossed the Moselle
at Pont-a-Mousson. How, then, do the belli-
gerents now stand? The French, we will sup-
pose, have made good their retreat to Verdun,
which they have reached before this, and have
driven back such Prussians as attacked their flank
to Commercy, a town fifty miles south of Verdun,
considerably farther from Chalons. The French
army of Bazaine, we may suppose, intends
to retire to Chalons, and join whatever
reserves have been hurried up from Paris; and
there, under cover of their entrenched camp,
the French may give battle to their enemy with
less relative disadvantage than on any former
occasion." The value of the reinforcements
which the French can throw into Chalons can-
not be very great in the face of the vast, dis-
ciplined, and victorious legions which the King
of Prussia has at his command. But as a morning
paper remarks, "In Metz the French have a
pivot by which they might dangerously man-
œuvre a corps upon the communications of the
invaders, and leave them helpless, without sup-
plies, in the heart of a hostile country."

Monday last was the Napoleon anniversary.
Though there were no rejoicings at Paris, the
population were in better spirits at the check,
however indecisive, which had been given to the
invader. A Palikao Ministry is now in power.
Though faithful to the Emperor, it has hard
work to keep the Legislature in hand, and to
avert a revolution. Neither Chamber nor
people, however, trouble much about the
absent Emperor, however strong the latent feel-
ing against him. All their energies are bent upon
desperate resistance to the invader. Forty mil-
lions sterling has been freely voted for that
purpose, the suspension of specie payments has
been recognised by law, the state of siege
has been extended to many of the departments
and great levies of men are being made to draft
into the army. The accounts we have given
elsewhere will show that Paris is panic-stricken,
and that a feeling of incredulity as to any suc-
cessful opposition to the German forces prevails.
It is stated that Count Bismark has announced
that Prussia does not wish any territorial ag-
grandisement at the expense of France; that

she will never take the initiative in inducing
any of the South German States to enter the
Northern Confederation; that Prussia never
intended, and does not intend, to extend her
seaboard to the prejudice of Holland, whose
integrity she respects; and that, after the suc-
cessful issue of the war with France, she will
act towards Denmark in the most generous
manner, to recompense her for her neutrality.
We fear this statement of Prussian liberality is
too good to be true. If the programme were
likely to be fulfilled, there would be reason to
hope that this terrible war would be brought to
a speedy close. The French people more than
anything else dread a mutilation of their
territory, though quite ready to annex that of
other countries. There may, perhaps, be an-
other great battle, after which the Neutral
Powers will doubtless intervene to bring about
a pacific arrangement, which will not be
difficult if King William be not too exacting.
Germany may safely leave the French to settle
accounts with the Imperial dynasty.

This day week Parliament was prorogued,
but the incident is already forgotten in the rush
of events on the continent.

RETREAT OF THE FRENCH ARMY.

THE week has been prolific of war news.
The most decisive movements, and, we may add,
the most significant, since the declaration of war
by the Emperor of the French, have been re-
ported since Saturday last. The storming of
Weissenburg by the Crown Prince, and the
subsequent victory of the Germans at Woerth
under the same Royal Commander, completely
demoralised the Army Corps under General
MacMahon, and drove it to Saverne on its way
to Nancy. On the same day on which the field
was won at Woerth General Frossard, com-
manding also an army corps of the French, en-
countered the Germans at Saarbrück, and had
his forces so completely shattered that no
tidings have since reached us of his where-
abouts. Since these engagements a week
passed without any important change. The
time seems to have been employed by the
German army in securing the passes of the
Vosges, so as to have all the communications
rearward free from the least likelihood of even
temporary interruption. Thus matters stood up
to Saturday last.

The relative position of the two armies has
become greatly changed since then. The line of
the Moselle was touched by the Prussians on
Friday last, and on Saturday they took pos-
session of Pont-a-Mousson, lying about midway
between Nancy and Metz. Immediately after-
ward the French evacuated the town of Nancy,
which was thereupon entered by the Prussians,
who found the baggage of a battalion of infantry
sent to defend the place by Marshal Bazaine.
The Emperor of the French withdrew from
Metz on Sunday, and took up his quarters at
Verdun, some forty miles nearer Paris, and on
the main road thither. It was anticipated that
a general battle would be fought before Metz
by the concentrated forces of both Prussians
and French, and, indeed, the movement of the
Prussians seemed to converge upon that im-
portant fortress, with the object of forcing a
decisive action upon Marshal Bazaine, if
he would hold his ground and accept it.
But the Marshal, no doubt, has other plans
in view. There has been, it is true, a battle before
Metz, but not the general engagement between
the two armies which had been expected. On
Sunday morning, the French commenced their
passage to the left bank of the Moselle, under
the walls of Metz. Half the army had already
crossed the river, when the Prussian vanguard
made its appearance, and immediately fell upon
the rearguard of the French. The struggle
between them lasted four hours, and seems to
have been exceedingly severe. The Emperor's
despatch announcing it, states that the Prussians
were repulsed with considerable loss. The
King of Prussia, on the other hand, in his com-
munication to the Queen, claims for the
Prussians another glorious victory. It is, per-
haps, useless to discuss how far the terms used
by either of the Sovereigns were justified by
the facts, and, after all, the facts alone are of
practical moment. It is clear from later tele-
grams, that the King of Prussia is now before
Metz, and that the French army outside the
lines of that fortress was driven back with a
loss of 4,000 men. But what is more significant
is, that Prussian cavalry have already advanced
as far as Commercy, and that Chalons is now
talked of as the place finally determined on for
the postponed general engagement.

Nothing more striking is to be met with in
the history of modern times than the noiseless,
uniform, irresistible march forward towards
Paris of the whole German Army. The heart

of the nation is in it. It is the nation itself, but slightly epitomised. It moves to its destination with the seeming ease of a locomotive on the line, and it contains within itself a compressed force of human will, capable of impelling it through almost every conceivable obstacle. There is no fussy excitement about its advance. There are no lying telegrams sent back from it to Germany, either to delude or to amuse the people. All the notices that we have respecting it indicate its consciousness of being engaged in a grim enterprise, wherein little pleasure is to be reaped and no danger that presents itself can be avoided. Germany has come to the resolution, at last, of taming, so far, at all events, as she is concerned, her next-door neighbour. The annoyances, the humiliations, the insults, the losses she has been accustomed to endure at the hands of the Empire, had become intolerable. She took up arms, at the challenge of the French Emperor, with a feeling akin to satisfaction that the day of her enforced patience had at length come to a close, and that henceforth, by war or in peace, she would assert her exclusive right to dispose of her own destiny. In this spirit she took the field. It was one of the most solemn acts of her national life, and it seems all but certain that she will prosecute her great national object without wavering, and even without serious check, to the end. She means to conquer for herself a lasting peace, and to establish, by whatever process may be found necessary, her right to arrange her internal organisation and her domestic policy without being obliged to regard the counsels dictated to her by an external military Power.

Then, again, one cannot but be struck with the wonderful rapidity with which the Prussian army has made its advance hitherto. It is scarcely a fortnight since it crossed the frontier. It has not only steadily advanced, but it has advanced with promptitude that outruns all expectations. It leaves everything in its rear sufficiently clear from interruption, and the very few strong places which it cannot occupy it isolates by investing them with a sufficient corps of observation. There is nothing to stop its progress—nothing, at least, that is visible to us. Alsace has been overrun: probably, before the end of the week, the whole of the Champagne between the Moselle and Chalons will be in the temporary possession of the Prussian army. It is understood that Marshal Bazaine will make a resolute stand at Chalons, to which place the Government at Paris is forwarding battalion after battalion of the Garde Mobile. It is not very probable, however, that the Prussian army will be finally stopped in its career, even at Chalons. It has its reserves behind it, and they are not raw recruits untrained to the use of arms of precision. Will the King of Prussia be within sight of Paris, and the Emperor of the French an exile from his country, before conditions of peace are even thought of? So far as appearances hitherto can be accepted as a guide to the future, the conflict will not be a protracted one. The Prussian Sovereign and his Statesmen will be, probably, satisfied with having shaken the Empire to its fall, and will hasten to assure France that he has no quarrel with her, but is quite willing, so far as she is concerned, to "let bygones be bygones."

OUR WORKING MEN AND THE WAR.

AMID the shock of great battles, and the excitement and often the perverted feeling which such events create, it is a relief to turn aside for a moment to listen to the calm and forcible protest of our representative workingmen against the war in the address they have just issued to their fellow-labourers. They do not take sides. "We have no desire," they say, "whatever may be our individual sympathies, or our indignation at recent revelations, to side with either party in this lamentable war." But they consider themselves entitled to protest "against the war between France and Prussia, as a great and horrible crime on the part of Christian nations at this part of the world's history, and a wanton infliction of misery and ruin, without any adequate cause, or the possibility of any beneficial result," because it is essentially a working man's question, and the interests of the industrial classes throughout the civilised world are one and the same. "Peace is to us," they say, "is the breath of our nostrils." The leaders of our artisans are not led away by the delusion that one side or the other is fighting the battle of freedom and independence in this horrible strife, or that the victorious legions of either Germany or France will prove to be the saviours of Europe. Suppose either belligerent," it is said, "to attain the most coveted success—suppose the

tricolour to float from the walls of Berlin, or the Prussian to bivouac in the gardens of the Tuileries—what follows? Nothing but a barren triumph to the conqueror, mixed with the never-to-be-forgotten anguish and humiliation of the vanquished; enormous exhaustion and suffering to both; deadly national animosities stored up for the future; arts, commerce, agriculture, industry, life in all shapes, burthened and cursed for years to come with ruinous taxation!"

Of course, so far as the principals in this frightful war are concerned, this address is an idle protest. They refused when there was yet time, and before the armies were let loose, to listen to the combined remonstrances and entreaties of the great Neutral Powers, and they will in no wise be swayed by the appeals of British artisans. But this declaration has a real and substantial value in itself. It emanates from men who can claim to speak as the representatives of their class. In all probability, Napoleon III. commenced the war with Prussia against the wishes of the more intelligent working men of France, and even of Paris. He thought he could override their objections, and drag them along in the whirlwind of national passion. He has, to a certain extent succeeded, though, by doing so, he may have signed his own death-warrant. But those who have issued the address "to the working men of Great Britain and Ireland" exercise, thanks to our free institutions, a palpable and genuine influence in our domestic politics. It was they who extorted a Radical Reform Bill even from a Tory Government, and they are listened to by their fellows because they are the acknowledged spokesmen of the industrial classes in their trade affairs.

The half-hundred workmen who have made this appeal to the great mass of the English people, and have made it at a moment when the world is dazzled by the victories of the German armies, do not indulge in bombast or claptrap arguments. They only express what is passing through the mind of the whole people of this country, with the exception of interested sections. But they want our industrial millions, whom they have a right to address, to know what is the real question involved. To deepen their attachment to peace—to create a deep and healthy anti-war sentiment among the masses—is the best means of keeping England right at this time, and the most effectual antidote to the interested clamour of panic-mongers. The workmen's committee say:—"We have nothing to do with dynastic jealousies or rivalries, court intrigues, secret treaties, diplomatic squabbles, and balances of power. We care for none of these things. To us they are but so many hateful and poisonous roots of evil and mischief. As those upon whose labour each State depends for its very existence, we are vitally interested in all that promotes national and international harmony; all that secures the peaceful development and sufficient recompense of our mutual industry." No one can gainsay this statement, and none will deny that if our working classes become thoroughly imbued with such views, there will be little danger of our being embroiled in war, or assert that we shall perpetrate the folly of arming to the teeth in order to avert remote and chimerical dangers.

The address signed by Mr. Beales, Mr. Lueraft, and Mr. Cremer is in harmony with the policy advocated by the Peace Society, whose appeal we publish elsewhere. Both come to the same conclusion. The workmen's committee say:—"What we claim and demand—what we would implore the peoples of Europe to do, without regard to Courts, Cabinets, or Dynasties, is, to insist upon arbitration as a substitute for war, with peace and its blessings for them, for us, for the whole civilised world." Here also the address is in harmony with general opinion. The present war has made it manifest that huge armaments are the curse of Europe, and the fruitful cause of war. Every one who reads the ghastly details of the late battles, and the terrible scenes that were witnessed on the blood-stained fields, must feel his horror of war deepened, and ought to be ready to join heart and hand with all who will do their best to put an end to such inhuman conflicts.

PARIS IN JULY AND AUGUST.

It is but one short month since the Parisians were in a state of exultation at the prospect of the easy march of the French grand army across the Rhine. The departing troops were saluted with enthusiastic cries as they marched through the streets; the *Marseillaise*, with Imperial permission, was sung openly in the streets, and became the national song; and Napoleon III. himself acquired a sudden and momentary popularity. It was Paris in a state of intoxica-

tion—its gay and thoughtless population roused to jealousy of Prussian greatness, ready to vindicate its national claims to military ascendancy, and confident that the French legions had only to appear in the field to overcome the enemy and march in triumph to Berlin.

Now how changed the whole scene from the delirium of exultation to the depths of woe. The military armaments of France have disappeared like a wreath of snow. Her veteran troops have disappeared by wholesale, not so much in consequence of the superior valour as of the better tactics of the Prussians, and the marvellous incapacity of the French generals. The Chassepot has been no match for the needle-gun; the mitrailleuse has had no terror for the enemy; the brilliant regiments of Guards, the pride of the Parisians, have not even drawn a trigger; and the veterans who fought in Italy, the Crimea, and Africa, were decimated in three days by the despised Prussians. That conceit which is so characteristic of the nation was shared by its officers. They hardly cared to make themselves acquainted with either the capacities, qualities, or positions of their foes in the field. They thought only of an easy promenade to Berlin, and have been driven back discomfited and disorganised to the centre of France.

To overweening confidence has succeeded a terrible panic. Paris is in a state of siege; its pleasure-loving population in despair and fury. The *Marseillaise* is forgotten, and those who so lately vociferated the national song in the Boulevards now cry for arms to defend their homes. Though the country is in danger, a corps of picked troops are retained in the capital to keep down revolution. Every able-bodied man is drafted off to Châlons, and the popular vengeance wreaks itself on the hapless Germans who have found a domicile in the great capital of France. "It is impossible (says one account) to do justice to the sadness of the streets. People wait for the news of victory with the air of those who hope against hope. The sky is heavy and lowering, and the atmosphere as hazy and gloomy as if it were typical of the public mind. So as the afternoon merges into evening the Boulevards become more and more crowded as is their custom, and the old denunciations, speculations, hopes, and fears are repeated and gather strength. The very air is charged with rumours, as the streets are with inflammable materials. How or in what shape the next change will come—who can tell? One thing is certain, this tension cannot last."

Even now the change may be taking place, and the gathering storm descending. It will burst not on the victorious Germans, but upon the defeated dynasty. It is easy enough to talk of defending a capital of two millions of souls, of manning many miles of fortifications, and of destroying the beautiful public gardens for the better defence of Paris. Why should the people submit to these privations? It is now being discovered that the war was never really popular among them, that it has destroyed the trade of the *bourgeoisie*, and that it is detested by the *ouvriers*. Those who now call the Emperor an "imbecile," and his generals a set of courtiers and traitors, will not submit to another crushing defeat without settling accounts with its authors. In the Legislature, as in the streets, Imperial authority is being set at defiance. From popular contempt to popular revolution is but a short step, and no one can say how soon that step may be taken. A series of victories or a revolution in Paris would probably hasten the conclusion of peace, but apparently the Imperial authority is past all recovery.

TWO ASPECTS OF HUMANITY.

WHAT a bitter sarcasm, what a stinging commentary, on our vaunted civilisation and religious progress is the intelligence that the proposed International Christian Conference at New York is likely to be postponed on account of the war between France and Prussia! This one fact speaks volumes. As we read the sickening accounts of the murderous struggles in which the rival armies of Western Europe have become engaged, we sometimes feel tempted to ask whether civilisation be not an empty dream, whether human progress is not a mere myth? Here are two great and powerful nations, each claiming to be educated, religious, and possessing the highest intellectual and moral qualities, having recourse to arts which the common sense of mankind has long since denounced as utterly barbaric and unjustifiable in character; and all because a couple of angry rulers could not agree upon a matter of a by no means pressing or serious nature! It is, indeed, a terrible thing to contemplate. Have men no other purpose in life than the attempted destruction of each other? It cannot be. Yet what else are we to infer from the earnestness and zeal ceaselessly displayed,

not alone by France and Prussia, but also by the surrounding nations, in perfecting the means of destruction. This horrible passion for cruelly perverting the manifold resources of art and science constitutes an ominous feature of modern society. Instead of the gun and the sword being regarded with the same aversion as would be the case with a bottle of arsenic or prussic acid, we find their use sought to be justified by every possible argument, and vast sums expended in attempting to increase their murderous efficiency. The amount of money wasted during the last fifty or sixty years on the martial equipments of Europe is almost incredible. It may be counted by thousands of millions sterling. More money is spent in a single year on soldiers and artillery, than would suffice to feed, clothe, and educate nearly all the poor of Europe. In England alone, the actual cost of the army is far in excess of the amount necessary for the maintenance of all our religious, educational, and other institutions, having for their object the promotion of the social, physical, and intellectual welfare of the people. What is the heavy national debt, over eight hundred millions sterling, which presses so heavily on our industrial energies and resources, but the sad legacy of past wars? Surely nations were formed for something better than building ironclads, or constructing needle-guns and mitrailleurs for the more rapid taking away of human life!

It is most sad, most disheartening to reflect on the tremendous mass of moving iron there must be at the present moment in Europe. Truly are we told that "in cannon, rifle, sword, shot, and shell, in bayonets and sabres, millions of tons of the martial metal must be embued and active." Instead of fashioning the iron with which Providence has so liberally endowed the earth, into peaceful machinery and useful implements of labour, which would enable the industrial classes to obtain the means of subsistence, we shape them into weapons of slaughter, which leave in their track nothing but death, famine, misery, and despair. What can be more heartrending than the affecting details of the sufferings to which the French peasantry have been exposed wherever the war-cloud has swept by in its tempestuous fury? We hear of numbers who have lost their all, whose homes have been rendered desolate, whose crops have been ruthlessly destroyed, and who, in their dark despair, have wildly ventured to question the justice of Heaven! It is indeed appalling. Nor is this all. As if the existing means of destruction were not already too fearfully effective, we hear of new engines of murder, of the prostitution of the latest revelations of science to the cause of war, of explosive bullets, of electric cannon, and of a hundred other things, which make us marvel how wide may be the line which divides civilization from rank barbarism. No wonder we have tales of the French peasantry, exasperated beyond endurance by their irreparable losses and misery, perpetrating the most fiendish atrocities on wounded and dying Prussians, who, in their ignorance, they imagined to be the real authors of the war. As we read of boiling water being poured on the poor mangled wretches gasping for life on the crimsoned grass, of wretches systematically mutilating the dying soldiers lying helpless on the hill sides, we are reminded of some of the worst episodes of savage life. It takes us back in imagination to the wilds of Africa, where blood is made to flow like water, and the most unheard-of cruelties practised on the least possible pretence. But how can we blame these miserable French labourers? They are but carrying out the example of their so-called superiors. Even in the hacking and mutilation of dead bodies on the battle-field we behold only a manifestation of the evil spirit evoked by the systematic development of the war feeling.

But if the presence of war reveals to us humanity in its darkest and most repulsive aspect, it also shows to us that there exists a brighter side of human nature, that amid the general mania for destroying life a purer and holier principle is actively at work. In the track of the two hostile armies follows another, the object of which is not destruction, but succour—an aim which seeks not to take away the lives it cannot replace, but rather to preserve them, and to render existence a blessing instead of a curse. When, in future times, people relate how two mighty nations engaged, upon most trivial grounds, in a conflict entailing a fearful expenditure of life and money, they will also tell how the sympathies of thousands were evoked for the unfortunate victims; how, while one portion of the European community seemed intent upon lowering themselves to the level of the brute, another devoted itself to practising the doctrines of the Good Samaritan. The formation of the National Society for the Relief of Sick and Wounded Soldiers con-

stitutes almost the sole redeeming episode of the present war. While the advance of a body of troops, whether French or German, seems to bring a curse into the district traversed, the appearance of the humble heralds of mercy, in their plain garb, with the simple, but expressive, badge of a red cross on a white ground, is hailed with gratitude by the poor sufferers. All honour to the noble-hearted men and women who have gone forth on their truly Christian work. Is it not encouraging to hear of these brave missionaries forsaking their comfortable homes, leaving behind them the enjoyments and luxuries of life, that they may tend the sick and wounded? How grandly shines the brighter side of humanity in this matter. If the cold, reckless pride of a Napoleon can make us grieve that the nature of man can become allied to that of the Evil One, the example of these messengers of love and kindness bids us remember that there are yet traces of Eden about us. Think of these surgeons and nurses surrounded by the most appalling spectacle that ever human eye rested upon, imagine them continually hearing the shrieks and groans of the wounded and dying, of their unwearying care and attention towards the poor bleeding creatures whose lives are ebbing away with every drop of blood oozing from their wounds, and then ask yourselves if these heroic men and women are not the true representatives of humanity, the types of moral progress battling with the influences of evil. There are few who envy the bloodstained career of a Napoleon; there are thousands who long to emulate the example of a Florence Nightingale. Herein lies our consolation. Amid the roar of the cannon, amid the clash of hostile swords, we hear hopeful whispers of the future. The very proclamations of the German conquerors show how distasteful is this war to the victors. They have been forced against their will into the conflict, and now they mean to make short work of it, for they desire not war, but peace. After all humanity is progressing. The world is not going back, but pressing steadily forward. The pen is proving mightier than the sword, ideas stronger than dynasties, even when supported by the most powerful of armies.

Court, Official, and Personal Notes.

The Queen attended Divine service at Osborne on Sunday morning. The Rev. George Prebster officiated. Lieutenant-General Viscount Templeton and Admiral Sir James Hope dined with the Queen on Saturday.

On Tuesday the Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at Duffryn Castle, Perthshire, on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Kinnoull, en route to Aberfeldy.

Her Majesty returned to Windsor yesterday, and is expected to leave for Balmoral to-day. On this the *Daily News* remarks:—"In the event of any incident occurring on which the Government may deem it important to consult Her Majesty before taking decisive action, the journey to the Highlands will involve a delay of three days, of which forty-eight hours at least would have to be passed in hard travelling. . . . At a time like this . . . a delay of three days may involve the forfeiture of irrevocable opportunities. Such of the Queen's Ministers as preside over departments likely to be called into action by the course of European affairs have thought it an imperative duty to remain within easy reach of London. The Queen herself is, we may be sure, not less sensible of the supreme obligations which weigh upon her than her responsible advisers."

Her Majesty's ship *Galatea*, under the command of the Duke of Edinburgh, arrived at Simon's Bay on June 21st. His Royal Highness was received with the utmost cordiality by all classes of the community. He passed the greater portion of his time during his visit in the country shooting. The Duke was to leave the Cape between the 12th and 15th of July for Australia.

Almost all Her Majesty's Ministers have left town, but during the present crisis all whose departments are likely to be affected in any way by the course of events on the continent, will remain within a short distance of London.

Mr. Gladstone, accompanied by Mrs. Gladstone and Mr. W. H. Gladstone, has left town to stay with Lord Granville at Walsley.

Mr. Odo William Russell has accepted the post of Assistant Under-Secretary of the Foreign Office, in the place of the late Hon. Charles Spring-Rice.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli and Viscountess Beaconsfield have left Battle Abbey for Ashburnham-place, on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Ashburnham. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is also on a visit to the Earl.

Mr. Patrick Cumin, barrister-at-law, has been appointed an assistant-secretary to the Committee of Council on Education.

THE WAR.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

(Continued from page 785.)

THE PRUSSIAN AT NANCY.—Yesterday (Friday) the 12th of August, at three o'clock in the afternoon (melancholy date for us and our descendants) four Prussian soldiers took possession of the town of Nancy, the ancient capital of Lorraine, and chief town of the department of the Meurthe. (Let us add at once for our credit that Nancy, an open town, had no longer a single soldier, and that in the interest of the city the municipal authorities had thought it desirable to recommend calmness.) Half an hour later a detachment of twenty-six Prussians traversed the town and took possession of the railway-station, making the superintendent a prisoner on parole. The mayor was required to present himself before the chief of the expedition encamped between St. Max and the road to Rasey. In the meantime an officer of Uhlans, followed by two horsemen, galloped round the town to reconnoitre. On the Mayor's return the municipal council had to vote for the conquerors a sum of 50,000 francs and supplies of oats. They asked no less than 300,000 francs, and considered 50,000 for a town blessed with such fine buildings a mere trifle. For the short period they have been here the Prussians have lost no time. At the station particularly twenty citizens, under Prussian directions, were compelled to tear up the rails towards Maxeville, where the rails were thrown into the canal. The telegraph posts have likewise been pulled down. The Uhlans numbered 150. Two hotels at Nancy, the St. George and the Chartreuse, have been required to furnish daily dinner for seventy-five persons. Here is the menu:—"Soup, bouilli, vegetables, a bottle of wine, and six cigars per man." In addition coffee had been ordered for this morning at four o'clock, but at four o'clock all the Uhlans had disappeared.—*Local Newspaper.*

PRUSSIAN ARTILLERY.—Private news from the seat of war gives the highest credit to the Prussians for judicious management of their artillery in the actions at Weissenburg and Woerth. It is said that the batteries came into action at distances varying from 1,500 to 900 yards, and were served with great accuracy. The Prussians seemed to be possessed of some means of rapidly ascertaining the exact distance, and their shells fell into the French ranks with fatal precision.

AN EXODUS FROM SAVERNE.—A letter in the *Sigle*, dated Nancy, August 9, says:—"After the defeat of the French at Woerth they retreated on Saverne, where they encamped. When the news arrived in the left place a panic seized the town people. All the houses were closed—hotels, *cafés*, beerhouses. I was scarcely half an hour in my chamber when the landlord entered, and told me to leave as soon as I could, for he was going to conceal himself in the mountains of the Vosges. I was shortly in the street, and beheld hundreds taking the paths which lead to the mountains. The army also thought it wise to retreat, and to fall back on Saarbourg. Not being able to follow the army, I followed the people on foot, as neither vehicles nor horses were to be had. I left my luggage in the house of a peasant whom I do not know, and who had the politeness to open the door and pitch it inside, when he locked the door, and was off to the hills as fast as his feet and legs could carry him. I do not know exactly where they are going, but I know where the crowd is going, and what a crowd—old men, women with their babies, and little girls of some four years climbing across Chamoin paths—cries, tears, and desolation. They brought with them as much as they could, and more than they could carry. Men bend under the load; even the children have their burdens. Where are they going? I have not the least idea. All these people speak German. After an hour's march we arrive at the first village, which has already heard the news, and is itself preparing to decamp. Oxen, cows, &c., are driven before us. Beds, linen, &c., are heaped on carts, and at each step the number of the flying is increased. I ask some persons whom I hear speaking French, where we are going, and when will our journey come to an end. I am told we are going to a plateau where we will encamp for the night as best we can after a journey of five or six hours. I regret that I did not remain at Saverne and face the Prussians. At midnight the group of men, women, and children stopped at some village the German name of which I forget. At five in the morning I was able to leave in a vehicle which I happened to procure, and which brought me to Saarbourg at four in the evening. There I found the Corps d'Armée of MacMahon terribly cut up, many of the soldiers without arms, sacks, or any other kind of equipment. One man told me he had nothing to eat but potatoes for four days."

ATROCITIES OF THE TURCOs.—A correspondent of the *Telegraph*, following the army of the Crown Prince, speaks of the Turcos and Zouaves as wild hordes, to whom many enormities are attributed. The inhabitants of Woerth charge them with some frightful acts during the late battle. I have seen, writes the correspondent, with my own eyes, a wretched lad, aged not more than sixteen, who first robbed a wounded Prussian soldier, and afterwards gouged out his eyes. One miscreant, lying with a broken head on a waggon, openly boasted that some wounded men, after being despoiled, had their tongues cut out. One-and-twenty of these wretches were tried by a German court-martial and shot.

A MILITARY PROCESSION OUT OF SAARBRUCK.—The special correspondent of the *Times* with the 2nd German Army thus describes the departure from Saarbrück on the 9th of August:—"At eight

o'clock this morning I was just remarking that, though masses of troops had passed through the town, we had heard neither drum nor bugle nor any sort of musical instrument, when the *assemblée* resounded from one end of Saarbrücken to the other. In the houses opposite the Hôtel Gepraette, where General Alvensleben (commanding the 3rd Corps d'Armée of the Northern Army, under the supreme command of General Steinmetz) was staying, soldiers were hurrying on their uniforms; others, already dressed, rushed down the streets, and were in many cases stopped by officers when they seemed to be hastening too fast. In front of my post of observation several companies of infantry were soon collected, and in less than twenty minutes the principal thoroughfares were lined with troops of all arms ready to march to Forbach, to continue the invasion of France. Hussars in light blue and red, dragoons of all colours, cuirassiers with steel glistening over tunics of white cloth, lancers with banners furled in token, not of having struck, but of an intention to strike, cavalry of all kinds, passed from the main street up the streets at right angles to it, gained the heights on and between which the recent battles were fought, and by two principal roads reached the main road which leads to Forbach. The infantry, marching strongly and steadily forward in long snake-like columns, looked far better than any one would imagine who knows the Prussian private from his demeanour as an individual, and in time of peace alone. A Prussian soldier, walking with an awkward gait, covered with a helmet evidently not made to measure, looks something like a Roman in a burlesque. But when Prussian infantry regiments are seen moving in masses, or, better still, drawn up in triple lines for battle, then the *as triplex* of their helmets has an irresistible effect, and is symbolical of their attitude in the presence of the enemy. Artillery, ammunition waggons, provisions carried in carts, and live self-transporting provision in the shape of oxen, came next; then more troops; then, after the destructive columns, the sanitary columns, and, finally, what may be called the spiritual columns. Infantry to perforate the foe, artillery to smash him, cavalry to lacerate him, and, at the same time, Knights Hospitallers, bearing the red and white cross of neutrality, to drag him from the field of death, Sisters of Mercy to tend him, doctors to cure him, or if it be too late for that, priests to save his soul. Everything is organised here. There is even a corps of gravediggers—dead-buriers, '*totien grabber*' they are called—who are under command, and have to do their duty like every one else. From the General to the gravedigger, there has been work for every one to-day; and, but for the activity of the latter functionaries, the Spiescheren heights and the plains beside them would be poisonous with miasma, and the dead would be killing the living. The sanitary and spiritual columns give almost a religious aspect to the warlike procession, which, as it moves away over the hills, looks here and there, when the red crosses of the *Krankenträger* and the black and white dresses of the *Barmherzigen Schwestern* strike the eye, more like a procession of pilgrims approaching a holy shrine than of soldiers invading a hostile country. Of the *Krankenträger*, some are men of the Landwehr, wearing uniform, others are students from the hospitals or universities, in plain clothes. All exhibit the red cross worked or stamped on a white cloth, which is tied round the left arm. Besides the Sisters in black and white there is a corps of Sisters who wear dark slate-coloured dresses and white hoods, with butterfly wings, and, like the *Krankenträger*, display round the left arm the red cross on a white ground. These admirable women have already done excellent service. They were on the field of battle, on the night of the 6th, before the firing had ceased, and this morning, as the clock struck five, I saw a party of them walking through the streets on their way towards Forbach, beyond which town there will soon be more work for them to do. All the Sisters march on foot, each little company preceded by a priest or a pastor. Most of the *Krankenträger* go also on foot; but a few of them ride in waggons in charge of the litters and medical stores. It took just two hours for all the troops who had passed the night of the 8th in Saarbrücken to get out of the town this morning. At half-past ten the streets were empty, deserted; the villagers had come to market as usual, and Tuesday being market day, the market, as usual, was held."

DISORGANISATION OF THE FRENCH ARMY.—The *Daily News* correspondent at Chalons writes that when he arrived here on the night of Wednesday last, the first sounds he heard was the hoarse shouts of drunken conscripts. He heard the roads to the camp were lined with stragglers and drunken Garde Mobile. The Garde Mobile have been trained in the roughest manner with the greatest despatch. Only a small portion are armed. The remainder are supplied with sticks. The camp is full of wounded, who have been brought from the front. English papers speak of the mismanagement in England, but if they saw the state of things here they would think English management perfect. It appears that now they are calling everyone to arms, there are no arms to give them, and it is actually thought of issuing old flint muskets to some of the Garde Mobile. There are fifteen chassepots per company at the camp, and the others are told to look on while the fifteen are drilled in that arm.

AFTER THE BATTLE OF WOERTH.—DESTRUCTION OF THE FRENCH CUIRASSIERS.—For six or seven miles our route lay along the fine high road to

Strasbourg, *via* Haguenau. The latter place is empty of troops, and the cavalry, which has already reached Saverne, reports the country clear in that direction. The landscape is most pleasing—rich fields, the road lined with noble trees, and a rolling land clothed with forest patches and hops of extraordinary height. Then we turned down a by-road—a communal highway—and, after a time, reached the village of Gunstett, the environs of which were the scene of a desperate action between the French right and the Prussian left during the memorable battle of Woerth. Like several others of the villages, it was crowded with wounded, and pale faces looked out of the windows of the cottages, with heads bound up; but there were soon more terrible evidences of the struggle. The debris of knapsacks, pouches, muskets, shoes, fragments of clothing, shakos, thickened as we went on; dead horses swollen to an enormous size, with their legs stuck up in the air, lay about in the fields; and now we came on a dead Prussian who had fallen stiff as if in the act of charging, and then came Zouaves and Turcos, mostly the latter, in all the fantastic rigidity of death in battle, the faces in most cases covered by the decent care of the country people with little pieces of linen, which the rain had beaten in on the lineaments in relief. The burial parties were busy close at hand and all over the country, but the harvest was too heavy for the reapers. I have seen now many fields—and the more I see of them the less I like them—but never have I beheld a sight so extraordinary as I came on by the little streamlet the Sauer, which flows by Gunstett. At an angle of the road, by a vine plantation, there had been evidently a sanguinary combat between the infantry; but a little beyond it lay the scene of a cavalry charge, the relics of which formed the strange spectacle I am writing of. There were heaps of cuirasses still bright, and brass helmets with plumes which had been taken from the dead, wounded, and prisoners, and piled at intervals along the road. Between these lay saddles, swords stuck in the ground, horse trappings, valises with "8" and "6" on them, here and there single cuirasses, dead horses, helmets, swords, muskets—the ground trampled, the vines beaten down—pools of blood—a foul, sour smell everywhere; this literally for two miles on each side of the road. In the village itself was a pile of thirty or forty cuirasses and helmets, then another pile of the same. Further on, mixed up with these "trophies" of the hapless Cuirassiers, we came on the signs of disaster to a regiment of Lancers—staves with red and white streamers in all directions, lancer shakos, saddles, valises, and tunics—blue laced with white. One would think Lancers and Cuirassiers had all fallen together; but to whatever regiments lance and cuirass belonged, it was plain they had been routed and destroyed. One remarkable circumstance is this—not a cuirass was pierced by a bullet. I looked most narrowly—others did the same. And yet what had been the fate of the wearers? That is a problem I cannot solve, nor could any one else; but it is plain that the Cuirassiers were annihilated. It is said that one regiment charged a battery and got in among the guns, but was smitten by the infantry on the flanks with a leaden shower that beat them to the earth never to rise again—unhorsed, or dead and wounded, the unhurt all taken in a few seconds. As I said, this sort of work was visible for quite two miles along the road.—*Dr. Russell in the Times.*

REGIMENTS EXTERMINATED.—As far as I can ascertain, the 74th French line regiment (engaged at Woerth), has virtually ceased to exist as a military body, one-third of its men and officers having perished in the field, and the rest, as well as all its staff, having been captured. A cavalry regiment has also perished—the 8th or 9th Cuirassiers, I know not which. It was surrounded in a large vineyard, refused to surrender, and, with the exception of a few superior officers, was simply exterminated.—*Letter in Daily Telegraph.*

A DASHING EXPLOIT.—The capture of 200 French soldiers, and an enormous mass of military stores, at Haguenau, by about a dozen German dragoons, headed by a couple of young Lieutenants—Von Schönbau and Von Freydrich—is the most brilliant little episode of the war, and, moreover, illustrates the utter demoralisation of the French troops. On the 7th (Sunday), about one o'clock p.m., the 1st and 2nd Dragoons took possession of the town, and the two young lieutenants above named, followed by a few troopers, rode off to the great barracks, which were still in the hands of some two hundred men. The pair summoned the occupants to surrender, which they at once did, marching out and piling their arms.—*Letter from the Frontier.*

THE RURAL DISTRICTS OF FRANCE.—No contrast can be more complete than that offered by Paris and the rural districts of France at the present moment. I have been passing backwards and forwards from town to country, and can judge well. Paris has recovered from its panic after the affair at Woerth; it is now full of life and hopes and fears. But in our villages there is a dull, blank look of misery and resignation which it is painful to witness. Soldiers leave Paris in uniform singing more or less gaily patriotic songs; but each individual soldier leaves his village in his blouse and wooden shoes with a heavy heart. At every railway-station may be seen groups of sorrowful rustics from different hamlets, waiting for the train which is to take them off to the camp. What is to become of the fields when all the stout young labourers are gone? The tillage of the land seems with our peasants to be an object of anxiety quite independently of the people the land is to feed. "Why did you not tell us that the *Plébiscite* meant war? We would never have said 'Yes,'" they querulously repeat. They were told so, but now one has not the heart to remind

them of it. The Liberal Empire has passed away, and so has the Empire of *Plébiscites*. That institution has become associated in the rustic mind with war, and any attempt to appeal to it again would be hopeless.—*A Frenchman in the Times.*

MACMAHON AS HE CAME INTO NANCY.—On Sunday, August 7th, a special train came into Nancy with some of the wounded. Marshal MacMahon accompanied them. He came "precipitately" to Nancy in search of subsistence for his troops, the enemy having taken all his provisions. His troops had eaten nothing for twenty-eight hours. The Marshal went on foot from the railway-station to the Café Boillot, a well-known rendezvous of the officers of the garrison. He was in such a state as to be hardly recognised. He was covered with mud from head to foot, his hands were black, one of his epaulettes had been carried away by a bullet, the skirts of his uniform were full of bullet-holes, his telescope was broken asunder by a ball which at the same time slightly wounded him in the hand. He had not had time to take off his Hessian boots and long spurs. Everybody in the café, as soon as he was known, respectfully saluted him. He hastily called for some cold meat, for he had not tasted food for twenty-eight hours. He wrote a letter while he was eating, and was very soon joined by an officer who is believed to be General de Failly. They went into a private room and had a short consultation, after which the Marshal went back by rail with the provisions he had bought for his soldiers. An inhabitant of Nancy, personally acquainted with the Marshal, asked him news of the Cuirassiers. His answer was, "The Cuirassiers! why there are none of them left."—*E. B. in the Monitor.*

WHY THE FRENCH HAVE BEEN ROUTED.—M. Jules Claretie, writing to the *Opinion Nationale* from the seat of war, says:—"Prince Frederick Charles said long ago that the want of scouts and ignorance of topography would always compromise the French army. It is too true that we are without *éclaireurs*. An artilleryman, whose battery commanded the Prussian drill-ground at Saarbrück, told me on the eve of the battle (not the Prince Imperial's affair) that he remarked with uneasiness a steamboat which, from the day the French had occupied the heights above the town, plied incessantly up and down the river. It occurred to him that it was employed in carrying provisions to the town. My friend was so impressed by this curious circumstance that he went to tell the major in command all about it. But this intelligent officer simply said, 'Keep your nonsense to yourself, and go and look to your battery.' The artilleryman returned to his battery, and, to satisfy his own curiosity, continued to watch the boat, which he discovered brought cargoes of Prussian soldiers to the wood of Styring. They were the very men who afterwards turned Frossard's division. The conceit of our generals has been *écroulé*. The French soldier, either left to himself or well commanded, is the finest in the world. But what can he do when he must obey insufferable fools? Another instance, among many, of the presumptuousness of our commanders. The generals at Sarreguemines have refused, yes, curtly refused, the offer of M. de Rivière to equip, command, and lead, at his personal cost, risk, and responsibility, a corps of *éclaireurs*, acquainted with every path, bush, and ravine in the country. Alas! *éclaireurs* do not enter into the notions of our military authorities. But even if they did, the civil element would not be suffered to come into contact with the military. The civil element foresaw, divined, predicted everything. Civil engineers came running to tell at headquarters that a bridge was damaged here, rails torn up there, an electric wire out elsewhere. The confident answer was, 'What does that matter? The Prussians will be beaten all the same.' Now, those rails and telegraphic wires were the means by which our scattered divisions were in communication, and by which in two hours 20,000 men could be brought to any given point upon our line of defence. The Prussians saw this, and acted accordingly. Their objective is always a railway junction. Before Weissenburg and Forbach they made for Bening-Merlebach, the point of intersection of the Metz and Forbach and Metz and Sarreguemines Railways. To-day they have pounced on Frouard, which leads to Metz and Nancy, to Chalons and Paris. Our unfortunate civil engineers and station-masters are in despair. Just think of it; at Forbach four waggons charged with powder were left unsheltered from Prussian cannon, on the line of railway. A battery of artillery destined to protect them was menaced, and ordered to retreat. But, in retiring, the powder, without which they could not operate, was all left behind. And the Uhlans? A single regiment of Uhlans kept our whole army in check. By scattering it adroitly along the frontier, by displaying here and there a handful of men, whom they sacrificed, the enemy, whom we did not perceive, disconcerted our chiefs, made our soldiers imagine they had troops before them, who were ready to take to their heels when the first gun was fired, and set our generals executing all sorts of manoeuvres—sending a whole corps d'armée at a time upon some point where a Uhlán had appeared; then transporting it somewhere else, according as these Prussian Dragoons cropped up, or galloped off. The consequence was that our soldiers when they came to fight were harassed, sick, and broken down with false alerts, and those incessant and perfectly useless marches and counter marches."

THE ALLIES OF CIVILISED FRANCE.—France—the self-styled leader of human progress—coldly and thoughtfully collects these savage Africans, drills and arms them, and ranks their cannibal hordes amongst her choicest troops. It is a thing incredible to think of. Only this afternoon, sitting at a café on

the Boulevard des Italiens, I watched a drunken Nubian swaggering along the pavement in a sort of triumphal progress. On one side walked a private with the number "18" on his kepi; on the other side a soldier in green uniform, which I did not recognise. These two white men—Christians I suppose—supported the steps of their black comrade with as zealous respect as if he had been an officer and a gentleman of France. Those who passed the little group turned and stood absorbed in admiration of a drunken negroid, who insolently rolled his savage eyes about, and plumed himself upon the sensation he created. I have no prejudices of colour, but such a sight seemed to me utterly disgraceful.—*Letter from Paris in Telegraph.*

FEELING IN PARIS.—The upper classes, who are able to form a just appreciation of the prospects of the campaign, scarcely dare hope that it will end better than it has begun. Among the *bourgeoisie* the war has never been popular, and evil forebodings have been rife ever since the action at Weissenburg showed them with how formidable an enemy they contended, and shook their faith in the invincibility of French arms. The feelings of the lower orders I have not yet had much opportunity of ascertaining, but from more than one source I hear they are disgusted with the war, and most solicitous for peace. This is not surprising, for they have already felt the sufferings entailed by the terrible conflict. Hundreds of thousands are in agonies of suspense as to the fate of those nearest and dearest to them. They can get no account of the killed and wounded, and daily expect the already long list to be doubled or trebled by a battle compared to which those that have already been fought will seem small combats. It is impossible to predict the effect in Paris of the next important piece of news from the front should it be unfavourable to the French arms. In outward appearance this capital is now quiet to dullness.—*Letter in the Times.*

PUBLIC FEELING IN FRANCE.—As you will see by the Press, this country is under the wildest excitement, and should any additional serious disaster befall its arms, there is no saying to what extremes it may not rush. The great danger is, if the Government be overthrown, that the country will be torn by civil strife as well as foreign war, when no limit could be assigned to the excesses that would be committed. Your journals, without exception, give very imperfect and erroneous accounts of the state of feeling in this country, for they represent it as being confined to the Imperialists and Republicans, whereas Orleanism and Catholicism, the latter especially, are deeply concerned. Detestation of the Church is not confined to Paris. It is found everywhere among the traders and mechanics, as well as among the higher classes, and I dread an outburst against the clergy almost as much as I do against the Emperor, so intense is the popular dislike to them. A few days ago they got up a petition here, demanding that all the young priests, who are numerous, should be put in the ranks and sent to the front. Thus we are going on, it seems to me, towards a revolution, which will be radical indeed in its results.—*Letter from Tours.*

M. OLLIVIER AND THE PARISIANS.—The late head of the French Cabinet had a narrow escape. A correspondent says:—"On Tuesday a colonel of the National Guard, on duty at the Chamber, had no small difficulty in getting M. Ollivier safely through the crowd when he left the House at seven o'clock, after the second sitting. The populace were for laying violent hands on him, and the strong guard of infantry and cavalry now on permanence at the Ministry of Justice was not more than was required for his protection."

EQUALITY OF THE PRUSSIAN MILITARY LAW.—How much in earnest the Prussians are in all military matters is proved by the King, when going to the front a few days ago, spending thirty-six hours on the journey from Berlin to Cologne. The distance in ordinary times is performed in twelve hours; but though the King is the King, and an aged gentleman to boot, who must suffer severely from the fatigue of a long journey, the arrangements for the transport of the troops occasioning the delay were not in the least interfered with. Before military law all Prussians are equal, the King not excepted. The Ministers naturally follow the example set by their Sovereign. Of the eight members of the Cabinet, six are married, and one has only daughters; the five remaining Ministers have sent between them no less than eleven sons into the field. Of these eleven gentlemen, five are officers and six privates and non-commissioned officers: Such is the stringency with which general conscription is carried out even in the highest rank of society.—*Letter from Saarbrück.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Duke of Manchester has left England for the seat of war. His grace will be allowed to remain at the Prussian head-quarters.

General Sheridan, of the United States army, has gone to Berlin, and he will witness the campaign at the German head-quarters.

During the past few days the expression, "Vive l'Empereur," has been eliminated from all the official despatches and proclamations.

It is stated that M. Rochefort offered, if he were released, to raise a corps of 10,000 men in Paris for service in the present campaign, an offer the Government rejected.

The last appeal to arms in Paris is said to have left great gaps in families. Six are stated to have left one house for the army—namely, the father, the husband, three sons, and a son-in-law.

A Central Press telegram says that Luxembourg has requested of England, Prussia, and Russia additional guarantees of neutrality. Reply has been

made that the neutrality is already sufficiently guaranteed.

According to the *Advertiser*, the news of the French reverses is acting as a mental restorative to the poor ex-Empress Charlotte. The physicians are said to be now confident of recovery.

According to a Brussels telegram, it is reported from Paris that the Empress Eugénie, with a view to eventualities, has ordered an inventory to be made of the Crown diamonds.

The official *Prussian Gazette* announces that those articles which are admitted free of duty into the States comprised in the Customs Union of Germany will also be admitted free of duty into those portions of France now occupied by the German army.

The *Post* says that letters from Paris from persons about the Empress describe Her Majesty as painfully changed and worn. She has scarcely slept for two hours at a time, and is unremitting in her attention to public affairs. Her attendants have the strictest orders to wake her on the receipt of every telegram.

The reported death of Mr. Elliott, who, it was stated, had been shot in Paris as a Prussian spy, appears to be incorrect. It is understood that Mr. Somerton, partner to Mr. Elliott, received a telegram, dated Paris, from that gentleman on Saturday, in which it was stated that he would be at Brackley on Monday.

We (*Daily News*) are informed, upon authority in which we place confidence, that the Prince Imperial, whom discordant rumours have transferred to the French Embassy at Albert-gate, or retained with the Emperor at the head-quarters of the French army, has been sent back to Paris, and is now at the Tuilleries.

We (*Daily News*) understand that a pamphlet from the pen of an eminent writer, and expressing more than his individual opinions, will presently be published in England, in which, in the event of the final victory of the Germans, the cession of Alsace by France to Prussia will be advocated as the basis of a treaty of peace.

The *Post* says that upwards of 200 applications are daily made at the embassy at Paris alone for passports by British subjects deterred from foreign tours, and even by old residents in Paris who fear the chances of war, and, still more, the dangers of revolution. The boats from Dover and Folkestone are empty, while the packets from Calais and Boulogne are overcrowded.

Baron von Munchausen, formerly Prime Minister to King Ernest Augustus of Hanover, has been arrested as a secret agitator for the restoration of the Guelphic dynasty, and sent for safe keeping to the fortress of Königsberg till the war is over, when he will have to stand his trial for high treason, as he has taken the oath of allegiance to the King of Prussia and is a member of the Reichstag, or North German Parliament.

The anti-Prussian feeling among the Irish was manifested on Friday evening by a mob attack on a Prussian vessel lying at Ringsend. They cried "Down with the Prussians!" and "Success to France!" and threw stones on to the deck. The captain ordered his men below, and would not permit them to fire. Owing to the height of the side of the vessel the mob could not board her, and left uttering threats.

Father Hyacinthe has written a letter to the mayor of the fifth arrondissement, which is printed in today's *Débats*, offering his services for the defence of Paris. It is not permitted to a priest, he says, to take the sword except in a moment of supreme danger, but there is nothing to prevent his making himself useful with the pick and shovel. "To-morrow, after mass," the Father writes, dating his letter Saturday, "I hold myself at your orders. *Vive la France!*"

THE FRENCH EMBASSY.—The Marquis de Lavallette is left with only the Secretary of Embassy to assist him. The second secretaries and attachés all quit London to join the *levée en masse*, which is calling every Frenchman of fighting capacity to arms.

ENGLAND AND NEUTRALITY.—On the 12th the Berlin correspondent of the *Times* sent the following telegram:—"England has declined to join in the Austro-Italian League for the restoration of peace, which has been proposed by Count von Bismarck. The league was intended to protect both France and Germany from any loss of territory; but, in case of the defeat of Prussia, it would not have prevented the dissolution of the North German Confederation."

THE GERMAN ARMIES.—The North German armies, it is said, consist, firstly, of 550,000 line with 1,200 guns and 53,000 cavalry; secondly, of 187,000 reserve, with 284 guns and 18,000 cavalry; and, thirdly, of 205,000 Landwehr, with 10,000 cavalry, making a grand total of 944,000 men with 1,680 mobilised guns and 193,000 horses. To these must be added, firstly, the Bavarians, 69,000 line with 192 guns and 14,800 horses—25,000 reserves with 2,400 horses, and 22,000 Landwehr; secondly, the Württembergers—22,000 line with 54 guns and 6,200 horses, 6,500 reserve, and 6,000 Landwehr; and thirdly, the Badenians—16,000 line with 54 guns, 4,000 reserve, and 9,600 Landwehr. All the German troops taken together as under arms at the present moment reach the enormous figure of 1,124,000 men. Four weeks ago on the peace footing they numbered no more than 360,000.

THE NEXT BATTLE-FIELD.—The next scene of battle, according to the *Trierische Volkszeitung*, will be Champagne, after the retreat of the French across the Argonne. These wood-covered mountains are only 900 to 1,300 feet high. Owing to the rugged shape of the hills and the woodland character of the territory, the difficulties for military purposes are there more considerable than in Lorraine, of which the Argonne forms the flat-topped western border.

The main roads run along mountain passes, which are, of course, capable of being well defended. A railway along the Marne connects the camp of Châlons with Metz, via Verdun. Rheims, where five lines of railway converge, is of special importance for the resistance it has to offer. The Germans having broken one of the links in that system, the French will have to retire to the defence of the Argonne Passes, and to offer battle behind them. As the allied forces penetrated through those passes in 1792, the modern army will probably be equally successful.

THE PROBABLE TRUTH ABOUT THE SECRET NEGOTIATIONS.—The Duc de Gramont has replied to Count Bismarck's last charges by what virtually comes to saying, "We didn't do it, but if we did, you are as bad." And that seems to be very near the mark. The Duc de Gramont explicitly asserts that Count Bismarck said to Prince Napoleon, "You desire an impossible thing: you wish to take the Rhenish provinces which are German. Why do you not annex Belgium, where the people have the same origin, the same religion, and the same language as yourselves? I have already caused that to be mentioned to the Emperor. If he entered into my views, we would assist him to take Belgium. As for myself, if I were the master, and I were not hampered by the obstinacy of the King, it would be already done." General Turr's confession amounts to the same thing, and though he is said to be a mere agent of the Emperor's, there seems very little doubt that Count Bismarck really did hold out to the Emperor the prospect of his cordial connivance in any plunder that did not touch German soil. Germany and France stand in very different positions in relation to this war. But hardly so the German and French diplomatists.—*Spectator.*

THE MITRAILLEUSE.—From the accounts of the doings of the mitrailleuse at Schoenburg, we get a horribly vivid idea of what could be accomplished by that new engine in actual combat. Four minutes' work had given 254 hits on a target representing a front of 150 infantry, at 800 yards distance; and, allowing for the fact that one man might receive two or more bullets, while another might get at second hand a ball which had already passed through one in the front rank, it is evident the havoc wrought by a piece well laid, and constantly worked, might be prodigious. A column of advancing soldiers can be raked by a hail of deadly bullets, and swept away before it could discharge half-a-dozen shots with any effect. At the same time, we can hardly call the mitrailleuse an invention in the sense that it originates a novel mode of destruction. It does no more than apply existing modes in a particular way; that is, it gives the discharge of a company of infantry with unusual quickness, certainty, and precision. If a hundred men could be trained to fire like clockwork, without agitation, uncertainty, or pause, and all at exactly the same level, we should have the effects of Montigny's so-called discovery. The mitrailleuse is the logical issue of the needle-gun. As soon as it was found that rapidity of firing from one weapon decided the fate of battles, experiments leading to a machine that rained bullets were a matter of course.—*Daily Telegraph.*

A GERMAN WAR SONG.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* sends the text of the new Rhine song, which, set to an inspiring tune, has fast become the "Marseillaise" of the present war. He appends the following translation by Mr. G. Solling, late of the Woolwich Academy:—

DIE WACHT AM RHEIN.—(THE RHINE WATCH.)

A roar like thunder strikes the ear,
Like clang of arms or breakers near.
"On for the Rhine, the German Rhine!"
Who shields thee, my beloved Rhine?"
Dear Fatherland! thou needs not fear,
Thy Rhineland watch stands firmly here.

A hundred thousand hearts beat high,
The flash darts forth from every eye,
For Teutons brave, inured by toil,
Protect their country's holy soil.
Dear Fatherland! thou needs not fear,
Thy Rhineland watch stands firmly here.

The heart may break in agony,
Yet Frenchmen thou shalt never be.
In water rich is Rhine; thy flood,
Germania, rich in heroes' blood.
Dear Fatherland! thou needs not fear,
Thy Rhineland watch stands firmly here.

When heavenwards ascends the eye,
Our heroes' ghosts look down from high;
We swear to guard our dear bequest
And shield it with the German breast.
Dear Fatherland! thou needs not fear,
Thy Rhineland watch stands firmly here.

As long as German blood still flows
The German sword strikes mighty blows,
And German marksmen take their stand,
No foe shall tread our native land.
Dear Fatherland! thou needs not fear,
Thy Rhineland watch stands firmly here.

We take the pledge. The stream runs by;
Our banners, proud, are waiting high.
On for the Rhine, the German Rhine!
We all die for our native Rhine.
Hence, Fatherland! be of good cheer,
Thy Rhineland watch stands firmly here!"

THE SUSPENSION OF SPECIE PAYMENTS IN FRANCE.—We last week prepared our readers for the suspension of specie payments by the Bank of France. The reason is not far to seek:—

On the 30th June their bullion was £61,880,000

It now is 41,120,000

Showing a reduction of .. 10,760,000

And with a revolution imminent, if it has not arrived, no bank could be blamed for such a step. In all dis-

cussions on French currency—for example in the discussions before the Commission of 1865, as to whether there ought to be one, the bank issue, or many, the French mind, so to say, started from a different beginning from the English. The French asked—How in case of a revolution, are you to manage the *course forcée*—the legal tender of paper instead of gold? The experience of 1848 showed that it was much easier to manage this with a single monopolist issue like the Bank of France, which was substantially under State control, and whose interior was really known to the State Executive. In 1848, when the notes of the Bank of France were declared legal tender, it was impossible to declare the notes of the many private banks which then existed a legal tender also, and in consequence they all either merged in the Bank of France or perished. But now there is only the Bank of France to think of, and we do not expect that its suspension of specie payments will at all hurt us here. Incidentally it will tend to lessen the strain on this market, as the Bank of France will no longer compete with the Bank of England for the metals which form the international cash among civilised nations.—*Economist*.

THE PEACE SOCIETY AND THE WAR.

The Committee of the London Peace Society have issued the following address to the friends of peace:—

"Dear Friends,—That which we have long feared has come upon the nations. The system of armed peace which the Governments of Europe have insisted on maintaining has issued, as such a system could not fail, sooner or later, to do, in open war between the two Powers which had most distinguished themselves by the excess of their warlike preparations. The conflict which is now imminent will, beyond doubt, prove to be one of the most awful in the history of the world. It will involve an incalculable destruction of human life and property, will fill myriads of hitherto happy homes with horror and anguish, will derange those beneficent ties of commerce by which mankind are bound to each other, will arrest the progress of liberty and civilisation, will envenom men's spirits by evil passions, and will make the very name of Christianity—the religion of mercy and brotherly love—for the time a mockery in the earth.

"But while overwhelmed with sorrow at this terrible event, we at least can look upon it with a conscience free from remorse. For many years we have not ceased, to the extent of our abilities and opportunities, in our endeavours to impress upon Governments and peoples the duty of using the lucid intervals of peace in adopting means which would give some guarantee to the nations against so dire a calamity as that which has now overtaken them. Far from having proclaimed, as we are sometimes mistakenly accused of doing, an approaching millennium of universal peace, our voice, on the contrary, has been one of constant deprecation and warning, on the ground that there was no security for peace while Europe was incessantly preparing for war, and while the nations were content to leave the continuance of peace at the mercy of the excited passions and hazardous accidents of the moment. Therefore it is that we have been strenuously contending, first, for a mutual and simultaneous reduction of those enormous armaments, which, kept up professedly in the interests of peace, are the most dangerous incentives to war; and, secondly, for the establishment of a court of arbitration, or some form of international jurisdiction, by which the differences of nations could be referred to the decision of reason and justice, instead of prejudice and passion. If there be any who doubt the efficacy of these means, will they suggest some means more efficacious? or are we to abandon mankind in despair to the eternal rule of barbarism and brute force?

"What now, dear friends, remains for us to do? Unhappily, in those countries which are the actual seat of war, the voice of justice, reason, and religion is stifled, for that is the only condition on which war can be prosecuted. Our excellent fellow-labourers in the cause of peace on the continent have not been wanting to their principles and convictions at this awful crisis. Consistently and courageously, even on the very arena of warlike agitation, have they, in every way that was open to them, uttered bold and eloquent protests against the war. But while it may be difficult for them to persevere in that course—for war is the most oppressive of tyrants—we must continue to denounce this great crime against humanity, and, undazzled by the glare of victory which may attend one side or the other, turn upon it steadily the light of sober reason and Christian morality. We must guard ourselves and use whatever influence we possess in guarding others, against the contagion of the war spirit, which is apt to spread even to those who are only spectators of the conflict. We must do all that lies in our power to prevent the area of the war being enlarged, and especially we must strenuously resist all attempts to involve our own country in this dreadful imbrolio. We must watch every opening for the restoration of peace, so as to encourage our own and other neutral Governments, whether of Europe or the United States, to offer their mediation at the earliest possible opportunity, with a view to bring the war to an end. And above all we must stand prepared, whenever this deplorable conflict is closed, to invoke the public opinion of all Europe in favour of such measures being taken, as will for the future place the peace of the world beyond the reach of the personal ambition of individuals or the capricious impulses of popular passion. And may we not hope that the horror and indignation which this war can-

not fail ultimately to inspire, will convince all men of the supreme folly and wickedness of referring the disputes of nations to the blind and brutal arbitrament of the sword—will awaken so stern a demand among the millions of the oppressed populations of Europe as can no longer be resisted, for those measures of disarmament and arbitration for which we have been so long contending, and which seem the only means of escape from the vicious circle in which the nations have been so long revolving?

"JOSEPH PRANK, President.

HENRY RICHARD, Secretary.

"19, New Broad-street, London, Aug. 1, 1870."

BRITISH ARMAMENTS.

According to a return presented by Colonel Henry James, director of the Topographical Department of the War Office and of the Ordnance Survey, the strength of the British Army in 1867-8 was as follows:—

British forces	204,530
Foreign and coloured troops	146,724
Total peace establishment	351,254
Troops of reserve in the United Kingdom	309,288
Ditto in British possessions abroad	118,120

Total war establishment 778,662

The "active regular forces" are described as follows:—Cavalry: Three regiments of Life and Horse Guards, ten regiments of Dragoons, five of Lancers, thirteen of Hussars. Total of all ranks, 16,749; horses, 14,403. Artillery: Horse, 30 batteries; field, 68; garrison, 116; mixed, 19. Total artillery, 28,812; horses, 12,136; guns, 648. Engineers: Forty companies, and two train troops. Total, 5,068; horses, 307. Military Train: 1,798 of all ranks; horses, 1,080. Infantry: Seven battalions of Guards, and 541 regiments of the line. Total, infantry, 127,282; horses, 1,077. Commissariat, medical, and other departments of the army make a total on the active list of 184,544 officers and men, 30,751 horses, and 648 guns. Depot and garrison troops in the United Kingdom, add 18,848 of all ranks and 826 horses.

It is stated that up to Saturday last 5,000 recruits had passed the medical inspectors at the different recruiting depots, and that more than six times that number had offered themselves, but had been refused as unfit for the service, either from age, height, or physical infirmities. The number of men and lads offering at the London recruiting depot in Westminster has been very large, but not more than eighteen or twenty out of every fifty that are taken before the medical inspecting officer pass. Fully forty per cent. of those offering for the line regiments belong to the lowest class of London roughs, costermongers, and casuals, with bodies and constitutions suffering from dissipation, disease, and lack of proper food, and more suited for hospitals and workhouses than for soldiers. There has been a most remarkable absence of men of the agricultural and navy class, and of decent young men of a roving and adventurous disposition. What few there have been of this latter class have been taken for the cavalry regiments. The poor mechanics who have presented themselves have been eagerly taken into the Artillery and Engineers.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

News has been received at Cairo from Sir Samuel Baker. On the 13th he was at Tewfikyeel.

The Red River Settlement is troubled with a great invasion of grasshoppers.

Miss Hatfield, of Northampton, Massachusetts, has left 300,000 dollars to found a college for women.

Massini was placed under arrest on Monday, and sent to Gaeta. He had come from Genoa.

Advices from New Zealand state that prospects were improving, and peace was established.

Admiral Farragut, of the United States navy, is very ill at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and is not expected to live.

The death is announced of Joseph Strauss, the unfortunate chief d'orchestre, who was brutally assaulted by half-intoxicated savages belonging to the Russian army a short time since.

The mail advices from Brazil state that a preliminary peace with Paraguay has been signed at Assumption. It is also reported that the capital of Entre Rio has been ravaged by General Lopez Jordan.

The trial at Blois of the persons engaged in alleged conspiracy against the life of the Emperor Napoleon has terminated. Megy and Beury were sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment, and thirteen others to terms of imprisonment ranging from fifteen to three years. The rest were acquitted.

A telegram from the Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* says that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has requested the Government to reduce the income-tax after October, in consequence of the commercial depression and the political discontent, which is becoming serious. The Viceroy returns to Calcutta earlier than usual, but not immediately. Blight is affecting the produce of tea in Achar. The indigo crop is slightly above the average. Malwa has again been visited by floods. Another telegram states that a bill has been laid before the Viceroy's Council to amend the penal code by providing punishment for sedition. The cash balance in the Treasury in June

was 2,400,000l. above that at the same date last year.

ALPINE FATALITY.—Mrs. George Marke fell, a few days ago, into a crevasse in the mountains near Chamouni, and up to the last time her relatives in England had heard (about twenty-four hours after the occurrence) she had not been found. The young lady was the daughter of the Rev. R. C. Maul, of Rickinghall, Suffolk. She was with her husband spending their honeymoon in Switzerland. Her husband is Mr. George Marke, the son of the late Sedley Bastard Marke, of Liskeard, in Cornwall. They were married about two months ago. The accident is supposed to have occurred on the Mer de Glace, or at some of the glaciers near.

THE MASSACRE IN CHINA.—A telegram from Shanghai, dated July 22, says:—"The settlement is quiet, but uneasiness still prevails. The French missionary establishment is considered unsafe. The English and French admirals are at Tientsin. It is reported that the Chinese authorities are using their utmost endeavours to persuade England and America to interfere, and avert retribution for the late massacre. The investigation into the affair is proceeding at Tientsin, and strong evidence has been obtained to justify the belief that the murderous rising was directed against all foreigners."

GREECE.—The Government has refused to admit English barristers to be present at the inquiry relative to the Marathon murders. The English Minister has protested against this decision.

ROME.—A telegram dated the 8th inst. says that the evacuation of the Papal territory by the French troops is completed. Prior to this event General Dumont presented himself at the Vatican to offer his parting respects to the Pope. His Holiness received him very well, but made not the slightest allusion to the war, the evacuation, nor the Imperial family. On retiring from the presence of Pius IX. the old general went to pay a visit to Cardinal Antonelli, from whom he encountered the same politeness, but the same reserve. General Dumont said to the cardinal, "Eminence, even if the French troops should return here after the war, I shall not have the command of them, for my ear will be split in four months." The cardinal, not knowing that in French military slang *fendre l'oreille* à un officier means to place him in retreat, thought that the veteran was about to undergo some surgical operation, and replied, "Indeed, general; well, I have occasionally observed that you are rather deaf. I hope that the operation will benefit you." The general, after this blunder, made the best of his way back to Civita Vecchia.

THE HARVEST.—Mr. Mechi, in a letter to the *Times*, says that he has been assured by farmers from Scotland and Ireland that they never had a more favourable season for their general crops. This (Mr. Mechi adds) is important, for those two countries contain 20,000,000 of acres under various kinds of crops; the whole of the United Kingdom only contains 45,000,000 of acres under crops, as per return to the Board of Trade. Nine-tenths of our wheat crop are grown in England. The effect of drought on light warm soils is this year painfully striking in contrast with cold heavy soils. A neighbour of mine has just sold ten acres of wheat with the straw and chaff for 20l., or only 2l. per acre—the buyer, of course, paying harvesting expenses. On my stiff clay my first yield of wheat, drilled with one bushel per acre, yields six quarters two bushels per acre, and sold for 59s. per quarter, or 18l. 8s. 9d. per acre, independent of the valuable straw and chaff. The expense of cutting, binding, stooking, and carting to the threshing machine was 9s. 6d. per acre."

MR. OSBORNE MORGAN AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—Mr. Osborne Morgan, Q.C., M.P., addressed his constituents on Monday night at Llangollen. He reviewed the principal measures of the past session at considerable length, and regretted the defeat of the University Tests Bill in the House of Lords, and the withdrawal of the Ballot Bill. He strongly urged the necessity of making the Ballot Bill the political measure of the next session, and explained the circumstances which had prevented the passing of two measures of which he himself had taken charge—the Burials Bill and the Sites for Places of Worship and Schools Bill—the latter of which, however, had, to a certain extent, been embodied and superseded by the Elementary Education Bill. The Burials Bill he expressed his intention of reintroducing on an early day next session. Speaking of the war which is at present devastating Europe, the hon. gentleman said that, although an ardent lover of peace, he was not for peace at any price. A vote of confidence was passed in the hon. gentleman.

ACCIDENTS.—A painful occurrence is reported from North Shields. The Rev. John Christian, Congregational minister, is at present staying at Horsley-on-Tyne, and on Thursday his daughter Emmeline was, while bathing, accidentally drowned. Mr. Frank Radford, an undergraduate of the London University, and eldest son of Mr. D. Radford, of Woodside, Ealing, was drowned whilst bathing at Littlehampton, last week. Three deaths have now taken place from the boiler explosion at Coalville, near Leicester, on Saturday, and two of the injured persons are not expected to survive. The explosion is believed to have been caused by a youth, engaged as stoker, allowing cold water to pass into the heated boiler. A case of sunstroke occurred High Mowthorpe, Yorkshire Wolds, on Friday. A labourer, who was attending to a reaping-machine in the cornfield, fell instantly as if shot. Fortunately a surgeon was close at hand, and he at once attended to the patient, and it is hoped the man will recover. The heat on the day was 128 degrees in the sun, and that with an easterly breeze.

Literature.

"ROUND AND IN THE WORLD."

We imagine that it must have cost the writer of this work—whom we recognise as one of the most vigorous reformers in Glasgow in the almost olden times of twenty or more years ago—some trouble to fix upon its title. Of course the title suggests a book of travels, and a very fresh book of travels this is. But why Mr. Rattray should say "Round and Round" as well as "In," we can scarcely imagine. We suppose, however, that he was on the search for something new with a tinge of the old—as all the new should have—and that this, after painful cogitation, was the ultimate result of the search.

"Round and Round" and "In," together, mean two voyages to Australia by packet, a long residence there, and return home by overland. It is difficult to make much that is new out of the journey, and, now, only fresh and untravelled men allude to their personal adventures, by sea or land in a work of this kind. Still, we accompany Mr. Rattray with interest in all his well-travelled tour; but the chief interest of this work does not lie in the author's mild adventures, but in the sagacity of his observations upon Australian life and Australian public questions. We therefore take, without asking, his permission to skip his first "Perilous Voyage," and dart at once to the political and social life of the colonies. Mr. Rattray was in Geelong when State-aid to religion was a fiercely debated question, and he took a part in opposing the grant. He organised a petitioning movement to be brought to bear on the Imperial Legislature, but the petitions were unheeded. He then says, in illustration of the working of this grant, and of the ballot in connection with it:—

"We were beaten, but we accepted our defeat with the loyal dispositions of those who, knowing that they have had fair play, resign themselves to the inevitable conditions of their fate. But this did not prevent the subject from becoming the leading question at the first election; and at a public meeting held in the town hall of Geelong to promote the election of Mr. Sladen, it became the only dividing question of the evening. The writer had been requested by the friends with whom he generally acted in this matter to question the candidate on it, and the answers he received not being satisfactory, moved that Mr. Sladen's opinions on this vital question being opposed to those of the public, and subversive of the principles of religious equality, confidence in his fitness to represent the town could not be awarded. On the vote being taken, the mayor, who was chairman, declared the number to be equal; but from the platform it was easily seen how the meeting was inclined, and taking the matter out of the chairman's hands, called *sic* on those who were opposed to Mr. Sladen to divide, when about three-fourths of the meeting rushed over to our side; proving incontestably how if the election had been by open voting, the candidate would have fared. Many who voted for him, would have been deterred from doing so in deference to the public sentiment; but the ballot, the conservator of conscience, enabled the electors, unawed by public clamour, to weigh his merits on this question with his merit as a high-toned gentleman whose public and private deportment commanded their respect and confidence on the other; and the consequence was that, of the six candidates, he stood second on the poll; proving, I think, beyond all lingering of doubt, that the ballot, whether it be un-English or un-Irish, affords the only guarantee for the conscientious discharge of a public duty, as it is for the preservation of the peace of communities, who under other circumstances are brought often into fatal collision, as was not long afterwards anticipated at an election for the city of Melbourne. The participants of this colonial donum provision for promoting religion include, with the exception of Independents, Baptists, and a few of the more consistent United Presbyterians, all the other evangelical and non-evangelical denominations, Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Unitarians, Wesleyans, and other Methodists, and I think Jews; and if not, why not? There are, of course many, very many, members and adherents of these denominations who would much rather support their ministers without having recourse to such a reprehensible source of aid from state funds, which are contributed compulsorily for, and which are consecrated to, state secular purposes; the diversion from which, by a minority strategically placed by the terms of the constitution in an unfair position of enforcing their unrighteous claims, is as much an act of spoliation as if the State were to rob the treasury of any church of its funds voluntarily contributed for sacred purposes."

It is a cheerful lesson to old reformers, and must be especially gratifying to Mr. Rattray, to know that, "beaten" although he and his friends were at that time, the last telegram from South Australia conveyed the news that State-aid to religion was finally abolished.

There are capital sketches in this work of Australian life of all kinds—of the inevitable Chinaman who, we suppose, will one day invade Manchester and Glasgow as he has the cities of all the new worlds; of bushrangers, and of the Aborigines, after which we come rather suddenly upon the oldest of the old

world in the author's overland sketches—good in themselves, but already almost too much written about. After some time spent in Scotland, the author returned to Australia on business, and gives some more adventures during his second residence. Good reading although the narrative is, we prefer, as before, to meet with Mr. Rattray as an observer and writer on public questions. We quote, therefore, from his well-informed and acute observations on the political relations of the Australian Colonies to the parent State:—

"It is now a maxim of British policy that it is the duty and desire of the government and people of the United Kingdom to afford countenance and protection to her colonies as long as they manifest a disposition to maintain Imperial connection; but as soon as any wish of dismemberment may be legally and formally expressed, and legitimately conveyed to the Crown, it would interpose no obstacle to the realisation of such a desire; and it is wise that our statesmen have distinctly enunciated this principle of colonial policy. It is well for the colonies also, as it will serve to dissipate the views entertained by some, of their own importance to the integrity of the parent state, which are erroneous and mischievous."

"Although it is very far from being a popular phrase, 'Let us out the painter,' it is the favourite expression of many unreflecting persons, who, when baffled in some selfish purpose by what they may suppose to be, and call, the arrogance of the Home Government, immediately unfurl the 'Repeal of the Connection Flag.' Their idea is, that the advantages derived from it are not mutual, and that in the event of the policy of England leading into a war, they would be subject to all the pains and penalties to which hostilities with foreign states would expose them; without seeming to reflect on the far more probable contingency of predatory assault or absorption by any unscrupulous aggrandising power, whose lust of territory and extended dominion might prompt it to visit with no polite purpose such fine outlying possessions as the Australian group are, and to lay a robber's hand on such fine prizes as they would be. It would, however, be a great mistake if public opinion were to be influenced or formed on the supposition that any desire for separation in the Australian colonies is common. It is chiefly confined to parties hailing from States having no political identification with the United Kingdom. The loyalty of the mass of the colonists is, although sometimes exuberant and excitingly demonstrative, not a mere sentiment, but a principle based on an intelligent conviction. The danger rather is, from the fostering of a feeling of regardlessness among the bulk of people at home, concerning the condition and permanent security and stability of the antipodean family, which may, if not judiciously regarded, eventuate in alienation, to a degree which would be mutually deplored. The press of England generally, perhaps without duly considering all the circumstances of the case, is vexed and irritable when any of the communities with which she is more immediately identified, do not adopt similar commercial principles to those which have proved so singularly sound and advantageous to herself and the commercial world; and rightly or wrongly, although there may be no blatant manifestation of it, this is certainly the popular feeling. But colonial governments do not receive credit for the fact, that with them, as at home, the chief part of the revenue of customs is derived from the duties on luxuries, and a great amount of misconception and ill-feeling would have been avoided if import duties, ostensibly imposed for the purpose of fostering colonial manufactures, had been levied for revenue and with that aim."

These extracts belong to the heavier portion of this work. The lighter portion will be found by every one to be most agreeable reading.

LADY TOURISTS.*

This is a narrative of travel by three ladies who set out from London two years ago upon a route which comprised, among other places, Munich, Constantinople, Cyprus, Alexandria, Cairo, Jerusalem, Damascus, &c. &c. That they have not travelled much before, we should gather from the fact that more is made of some trivialities which become too common to be noticed after one long foreign ramble, and also from the absence of those comparisons which are inevitable when one has seen other parts of the world. One of the travellers, "Miss Agnes," gives this "pen-and-ink sketch" of herself and her companions:—

"We are all sisters in affection, though only two are so by birth. We are provided with the best of all auxiliaries—viz., a knowledge of the French, German, and Italian languages. A courier we do not want, as without his services we are in a much more advantageous position for gathering information. We agree to a division of labour. Violet makes herself responsible for the management at hotels, and for the direction of the party in general. Edith examines the accounts; Agnes studies the guide-book, and sketches routes for the approval of her companions. Violet is gifted with prudence and liveliness; Edith is quick at arithmetic; whilst Agnes is very happy to benefit by the practical activity of her friends."

We cannot help surmising that Miss Agnes has written home to her friends a series of very interesting sketchy gossip letters, which would have borne a little more weeding than they have had before being sent to the press. There are some sentimental reflections here and there which, to our taste, a little spoil the book. They are not silly, but they are not quite wise—very nice in a letter to loving friends, not suitable for the eye of a cold, unsympathising public. We have no objection in the world to a young lady talking politics, especially if she understand them and has a real and not a mere dilettanti interest in them, but when they are packed up en

route for Palestine, we could have been spared the following:—

"On a dull morning of August, 1868, we bade farewell to London. It is sad to drive along these streets, and wonder if we shall ever behold them again. Before one year has passed, what changes will take place in the State, in the Church, and in the circle of our friends. The Irish Church Establishment will be a thing of the past—that is certain. Mr. Gladstone will probably guide the nation's counsels. Society will whirl on its way without missing us much, and we shall all be a year nearer eternity. But what of that? In seeking to know more of our Father's universe, may we not rise to broader conceptions of Himself? And may we not arrive at a truer estimate of our own little sphere of action, if we learn to realise how many struggles and aspirations go forth towards objects of which we have hardly learnt even the names?"

We present our best thanks to "Agnes" for sparing us the details of the voyage. To the untravelled, a voyage from London to Ostend is not a matter to be passed over as insignificant; and yet all that she permits herself to say about it is, "After a somewhat 'stormy passage we reached Ostend.'"

From Ghent, the travellers proceeded by the Forest of Ardennes to Luxembourg, of which beautiful place there is a very good description. Thence again to Ems, Frankfurt, Nuremberg, and Munich. As a sample of the easy chit-chat which makes up a considerable part of the book, and in measure compensates for a little fuller painting of the various scenes through which the travellers passed, our readers may take the following:—

"The greatest charm of Ems is a donkey ride. Our donkeys were named Fix, Fritz, and Bertha. Fix's previous rider was a Russian Count, who played away a great deal of money, and had to send for more to take him home. Which was the greater donkey? It was very amusing to hear the donkey-drivers talk. They had no respect for their King. 'Only fancy,' said one of them, 'he has been here two seasons, and has never mounted a donkey once.'"

"How lovely the Marlberg looked in its russet dress. It was like some characters, that never show the half that is in them, till a cold wind blows."

One does not look for much art criticism in a book of travels, although nearly every city on the Continent contains some treasure of the kind to provoke it. A large majority of those who go to see them, however, consists of those whose criticisms would hardly bear to appear in print. The little that is here of this kind is of a most sensible sort, as the following extract will show:—

"Rubens is not always pleasing. The hand that painted the 'Descent from the Cross,' should never have been employed on any but the purest subjects; and when pictures do not appeal to our best feelings, it is a waste of time to look at them. It is a great mistake to paint horrible scenes; painting, like poetry, should seek to elevate our minds; and what elevation is there in a lion killing a man, or in Bethlehem mothers biting the arms and scratching the faces of the soldiers who slaughtered their children?"

"To look at Rubens' painting after Albert Durer's is like reading Byron after George Herbert. And yet, with all his wonderful powers of vivid colouring, he is of the earth, earthly. Even his celestial spirits have anything but glorified bodies. Now, Guido Reni is, if one may so speak, heavenly. His every touch has a tinge of the blue sky about it, and he is seldom guilty of mixing up mythological and sacred subjects which is so profane, or mythological and historical subjects which is so puzzling. Each of his paintings is a simple idea, which the mind can take in and contemplate without distraction."

"We wondered why Violet was so much more charmed with pictures of the Madonna than with those of the Saviour. Perhaps because she could enjoy them without so much fear of profanity. How can or how dare any one paint the divine Jesus? 'We shall see him as he is,' and the highest effort of human genius will then appear worse than child's play; or, rather, will be forgotten. And when a man like Rubens could paint the 'Crucifixion,' and 'Castor and Pollux' equally well, may we not suspect that both to him were alike mythological?"

That the three fair ones were able to take care of themselves, peeps out here and there in a naive way which contributes not a little charm to the book. At the end of the journey to Pesth, came of course the nuisance of getting their luggage amid the confusion of disorderly porters. Madame Jucunda, a young married lady whom they had joined in travel, thought to steal a march upon her companions and get her luggage included with that of the sisters. In doing this Agnes tells us that "all her refinement disappeared" "she swore the most fearful oaths and worked both 'herself and the man into a state of the most excited 'perplexity.' They managed, however, to take her off, get the start of her, and drove off to 'secure the separate 'cabin for which we had paid beforehand.'"

From Pesth their journey lay some distance by steamer, and here the travellers began to experience somewhat of the romance of foreign travel—fourteen languages being spoken among the fifty people who sat down to dinner together. Imagine the Babel that would make in the small space of the cabin of a steam-boat, if, as would happen sometimes, all spoke at once.

Merry girls, too, were the travellers; for Violet and Agnes, sitting next the captain at dinner, made him laugh so much that they feared he would be attacked with apoplexy.

"I do not often find English people so agreeable," said the captain. "They are generally very stiff, and 'if you make them a civil bow they stare at you. And

* *Round and Round, and in the World.* By JAMES RATTRAY. London: Simpkin. Glasgow: Porteous.

* *Eastern Pilgrims: the Travels of Three Ladies.* By AGNES SMITH. London: Hurst and Blackett, 16, Great Marlborough-street, 1870.

"they are so conceited about their own language, that they seldom learn to speak anything else."

At Alexandria began the real difficulties and dangers of their journey. Everybody who travels in Eastern regions is, of course, very much at the mercy of his dragoman, just as every traveller in Europe is at the mercy of his courier, if he is unwise enough to take one. But three ladies at the mercy of a dragoman, and he, if judged by his own boast, the best in the East, which we take to mean the biggest scoundrel of the lot! Says Agnes: "Seldom have we seen a more handsome man. Though not exactly of the size of Anak, he might have sat for a portrait of Bluff King Hal after domestic worries had tinged that monarch's hair with silver." What could three unprotected do, but put their whole trust in a big, handsome, white-haired, smiling, sugar-spoken Maltese, who assured them that he was everything a dragoman should be, if not more? Moreover, he was a European, and not an Arab, which was a great thing in the sisters' esteem; though our own experience would tell us that if in respect of honesty there be any difference between a Maltese and an Arab, it must be infinitesimal. How he wheedled them into engaging him, how he cheated them in the matter of their "dahabieh," or Nile boat, how he swindled them, how he excited their suspicion, got himself dismissed without a character, and finally went away "a much injured man," form one of the pleasantest parts of this chatty book.

We must confess to some considerable disappointment in that part of the book which relates to the Eastern portion of the journey. We get no impression of the things the travellers saw from the meagre attempts at description which we have whenever we come to a new place. Now and then the writer warms up to something like poetry and enthusiasm; but the thing that most appears is the Scotch religiousness, which would take a world of trouble to see the Cave of Adullam, but which has nothing to say but the poorest commonplace of all the wonderful localities of Bethlehem, Gethsemane, and Jerusalem. Indeed, if Agnes ever takes another tour and puts it in a book, we strongly advise her to cut out all the conversation and all the religious reflections. Not that we have any objection to read pleasant chit-chat, only there should be something in it; still less to religious reflection, only it should have far more intelligence and reality of sentiment than we have found here.

We will not trouble our readers with the remainder of the journey. Most of them will have become familiar by this time with Dean Stanley's "Sinai and Palestine," and will gather nothing more from this book. Unless, indeed, it would interest them to know the following:—

"Left the tents at 5 a.m. Reached the Dead Sea at 6.45. Left the Dead Sea at 7. Reached the Jordan at 8.6. Left the Jordan at 8.35. Reached the tents at 10 a.m."

Friends at home must have been greatly edified with this information when it arrived, and we cannot wonder if they pressingly desired that, whatever else was left out, that might be put in the book!

Miss Agnes must forgive us if we seem to be ungallant. We critics are nothing if not true. We propitiate her by repeating that she has written an interesting book of chit-chat, which many of her own sex will read with more pleasure than they would find in any more learned book.

BRIEF NOTICES.

The Setting Sun. A Poem in Seven Books. (F. Bowyer Kitto.) The purchaser of these anonymous lines has not the small satisfaction of getting one "book" at a time. He must have the whole seven, that is to say, three hundred and fifty pages, or about ten thousand lines. The theme is a very suggestive one, but we do not profess to have read so large a proportion of the ten thousand lines as to have learnt precisely what relation the "poem" bears to it. We do indeed discover that the writer is in the decline of life, and it may be that he contemplates his departure as an event which will be followed by consequences similar to those which result from the disappearance of a great luminary. This suggestion is not wholly unwarranted by his words. Thus he says:—

"I can write verses—so can everybody;
But who can soar up to the heaven of genius?
Who can sun-graph the fancies of the brain?
Who can distil the quintessence of nature,
And from the contrarieties of being
Extract the harmonies of truth and beauty,
Winning from life its latent poetry?
None but the poet who is born a poet;
And if I am a poet I can do it,
And I was born a poet and I know it."

Nothing could be more conclusive than this. He describes his vocation with more accuracy, however, in the next page, thus:—

"My brightest thoughts spring forth spontaneously,
As unexpectedly as shooting stars,
Coming from nobody can tell us where,
Going beyond where any body knows."

The author has felt it his mission to send this poem forth to the world—

"Destined, I trust, to work the good of men,"

And, though we cannot accept his own estimate of its intrinsic merit, or of its probable effect upon the world, as the true one, we can unfeignedly rejoice that he has

"A happy temperament,

Which neither time nor troubles could destroy;

Not only daily bread, but daily breath,
Good health, no head ache, stomach ache, or heart ache.
A comfortable home, and loving wife,
With means to live on in a homely way,
Without the losses, cares, and toils of business."

Many of our readers will be interested to learn how this happy mean is attained:—

"My rules of health are few and very simple,
To drink my tea and coffee hot and sweet,
Avoid all pickles; and take care to eat
Plenty of pastry, rather than too much meat,
And not work hard with head or hands or feet."

Miscellanies. By JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, D.D. (London: Strahan and Co.) The announcement of this book awakened considerable interest, which has perhaps been rather increased by delay in its appearance. Now that it has come, we are inclined to think that it will cause disappointment. It is not that the editor's work has not been well done, or that the extracts from the "Oxford Sermons" and other writings of the distinguished Romanist divine have not great intrinsic value and interest for readers. But the book is pretty sure to be compared with the similar volume from the works of Dean Stanley, and it must be confessed that it will suffer by the comparison. The Dean's writings are on more popular subjects; his style is more pictorial, and his productions yield more striking and effective extract. The editor of the present series is fully conscious of this, and for this reason has left the theological treatises entirely untouched. The extracts are divided into three sections; the first Historical, the second Moral and Practical, the third Doctrinal. To the first, less than a third of the volume is given; and part of it is occupied with passages on the Scripture heroes. We have, therefore, comparatively little from the "History of the Arians," in which abundant materials might have been found for the editor's purpose. The book is so scarce and dear that such extracts would have been specially welcome, and a larger proportion of them might with advantage have been substituted for some of the sermons. The book, however, as a whole, enables the reader to form an accurate idea of the style of one of the most acute thinkers of the age.

Evenings with the Sacred Poets. Containing gems by the most eminent writers from the earliest times. By FREDERICK SAUNDERS, author of "Salad for the Social," "Salad for the Solitary," &c. (London: Richard Bentley.) This publication affords another proof of the existence of the law that "some men labour and other men enter into their labours." Mr. Saunders's book has little originality about it besides the title. Judging from his previous works, the titles are Mr. Saunders's strong points, and here he has succeeded in turning the "Half-hours" of a well known author into "Evenings." The "gems by the most eminent writers" must be taken as referring not only to selections from the sacred poets, but also to extracts from the various authors who have written upon ancient, mediæval, and modern hymnology. Those of our readers who may have supposed this to be an independent treatise will be thankful for the explanation of this happy ambiguity. Mr. Saunders's critical faculty may be estimated from such phrases as the following:—"There are some splendid thoughts in this passage." "This fine triplet has been often admired." "We now hail that chief of the tuneful throng, the great and good Milton, whom a brother bard beautifully apostrophises as one—" "What a grand passage is the following!" "Another of his fine poems is—" Such specimens are to be found on nearly every page, and may be fairly left to speak for themselves.

The Woman's Kingdom. By the Author of "John Halifax." (London: Hurst and Blackett.) A new and cheap edition of a book which must already have had thousands of readers, is an indication of its great popularity. That popularity is not undeserved, and rests on no meretricious or superficial claims. Mrs. Craik is here not only fully equal to her high reputation, but we question whether she has not surpassed most of her former books. In the portraiture of character, especially, the tale shows remarkable power. The little group to whom we are introduced in the opening scenes in the Isle of Wight is made up of no commonplace characters. In each there are freshness, distinctness, and individuality, and the promise which the commencement gives is well sustained to the close. A perfect consistency is preserved throughout, and each separate trait and incident is in harmony with the general idea, and adds to the effect. The plot is clever, and develops itself in a natural and interesting style which keeps up the attention of the reader. But one of the greatest merits of the story is that high moral tone by which Mrs. Craik is so honourably distinguished from many of her rivals.

Virgil. By the Rev. W. LUCAS-COLLINS, M.A. (William Blackwood and Sons. 1870.) This volume of the series of the "Ancient Classics for English Readers" was to have been undertaken by the late Mr. Conington, and his admirable version of the *Æneid* fully justified the editor in this selection. The editor, who has already contributed his analysis of Homer, supplies the lack of service occasioned by the death of Mr. Conington, and interprets for general readers the story and the style of the Augustan poet who took Homer as his model. Mr. Collins has done his best to interest those who are strangers to classical scholarship in these great epic poems of the ancients, but nothing perhaps that any one could do would ever make them

popular. The moderns look in fiction for a hero and a love romance, and love, as now understood, has no place in Virgil or Homer. *Æneas* was a hero quite good enough for the court of Augustus, and so far quite suitable for Virgil's purpose, but he is no hero to an English reader. Mr. Collins has enriched his pages with numerous extracts from Mr. Conington's version and choice illustrations from modern poets, and the ability manifested in the treatment of the "*Æneid*" and the "*Odyssey*," is equally conspicuous in this exposition of the "*Æneid*."

Essays in Mosaic. By THOMAS BALLANTYNE. (London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.) This addition to the elegant "Bayard" series is well worthy of the place it holds. The editor describes these essays as "skeleton lay sermons, containing the best and most earnest and weighty sentences of the most thoughtful writers upon matters which concern us all, and which especially concern the welfare of the Commonwealth." To this description they fully correspond. Mr. Ballantyne's reading has been extensive, his skill in selection and grouping of extracts is considerable, and he has given us here a choice miscellany of passages from the greatest writers of all ages. As a suggestive little volume, and especially as a companion for leisure hours, in which there is not time to take up a more elaborate work, the book is invaluable.

Every Day Objects. Edited and Enlarged by W. H. DAVENPORT ADAMS. (W. P. Nimmo.) Amongst "every day objects" described in this useful compilation we have several things that are not seen every day, and by some of our less-favoured readers are not seen from year's end to year's end. We should like to know how many of them have seen red snow. But we must not be too particular. Many of the objects here described and classified are to be seen in our hedgerows or grasses; and the phenomena of the air and sky become more interesting when explained in a popular manner. Mr. Adams founds his work upon the second series of a French work, "*Les Saisons*," by M. Hofer. It is a contribution to the instruction of the young in natural history.

MUSIC.

Rimbault's Catechism of the Rudiments of Music (Chappell and Co.) is a cheap and handy introduction to the study of music. It is very simple, but being prepared by a thorough musician, it gives prominently and in their proper order all the explanatory terms which are so puzzling to the beginner. If carefully followed it will soon enable the learner to read music correctly, and to render it properly, both as to time and expression. Its handy form and the exclusion of superfluous matter will render it a very useful and popular manual.

THE LONDON STEREOGRAPHIC COMPANY have published a very excellent likeness of the Rev. Robert Moffat. It will be some compensation to those who cannot look upon him in the flesh to have so truthful a representation of his present appearance. There are many whose only association with him are the ample forehead and manly open countenance which a coloured print, executed some forty years ago, has preserved to them. The brow is ample still, and the countenance beaming with benevolence; but the long white beard and furrowed cheeks show the work which time has made upon him. This, however, will be less remarked than the upright posture in which he sits, and the vigour both of mind and body which it denotes.—Charles Dickens's Raven "Grip" is also the subject of what we might not inaptly call a speaking likeness.

MAP OF THE SEAT OF WAR.—Mr. Wyld has published a very useful and intelligible map of the seat of war. The separate nationalities are indicated by a coloured line; the character of the country, whether wooded or hilly, is shown, and the scale, about ten miles to an inch, is sufficiently large to enable one to study the positions of the respective armies in such a manner as to know the significance of the various movements announced.

Miscellaneous News.

A petition has been presented by certain Liberal electors of Brecon, praying for the issue of a commission to inquire into alleged corrupt practices at elections for Brecon. Of course the petition cannot be acted upon, if at all, until next year.

THE WORK OF THE LATE SESSION.—The number of public Acts passed in the late session was 112. There were 172 local and four private statutes passed. In the previous session there were 117 public, 159 local, and ten private Acts passed.

NEW POULTRY MARKET.—From the *City Press* we learn that the Markets Improvement Committee of the Corporation have reported favourably upon their architect's plan for the erection of a Poultry Market in connection with the New Meat Market in Smithfield. The estimated cost of the building is about 100,000*l.*, and it is calculated that the returns will amount to about 13,500*l.* per annum.

THE NATURALISATION TREATY.—The convention between Her Majesty and the President of the United States, amending the naturalisation laws of the two countries, was ratified in London on Wednesday. It provides that the citizens of either country may be naturalised in the other agreeably to

its laws, and may also renounce their naturalisation, provided that the renunciation be publicly declared in a manner agreed upon by the two Governments. A native of either country who has been naturalised in the other may renew his citizenship in his own, if he shall return to it, on such conditions as his Government may impose. The convention bears the signatures of Lord Clarendon and Mr. Motley.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—The Attorney-General was re-elected for Plymouth on Monday without opposition. In returning thanks, Sir E. Collier said that as a portion of his constituency objected to his holding the Recordship of Bristol, he should at once resign the appointment. Referring to the subject of retrenchment, he maintained that Government had acted consistently with its professions, and had dealt impartially with all. Retrenchment was always popular in theory, but never in practice.—In Dublin it is not expected that one-fourth of the constituency will poll. The Conservatives have not yet determined, as a body, to vote for Mr. Herman King, the so-called "home-rule" candidature, but it is supposed that at the last great exertions will be made to bring up Conservative votes against Sir Dominic Corrigan.

THE BABY-FARMING CASE.—At the Central Criminal Court yesterday, Margaret Waters and Sarah Ellis were indicted for the wilful murder of five children. They were also indicted for unlawfully neglecting to provide sufficient food and other necessities for certain children of tender years unable to provide for and take care of themselves, whom the said Margaret Waters and Sarah Ellis were obliged by contract to provide for, so as thereby to injure the health of the children. They were also detained for conspiring to obtain money by false pretences. The prisoners pleaded "Not guilty." Mr. Besley, on the part of the defence, applied for a postponement of the trial on the ground that certain evidence was to be given for the prosecution of the character of which the defence had not received any notice. Mr. Poland, on the part of the prosecution, stated that he did not deem the application unreasonable, and the case was accordingly ordered to stand over till next session.

THE SLAVE TRADE.—On Wednesday ratifications were exchanged at London of the convention for the suppression of the African slave-trade. This convention was signed at Washington on the 3rd of June, and is additional to the treaty contracted between the two Governments in 1862 for the same object. It suppresses the mixed courts at Sierra Leone, Cape of Good Hope, and New York, appointed in virtue of that treaty to decide in cases where slavers were captured, and transfers their jurisdiction to the respective courts of the two nations, with a proviso reserving the same power of appeal against the decisions of these courts as is allowed in other cases of maritime prizes. In the case of a British merchant-vessel being captured by an American cruiser, it is provided that she shall be taken to the nearest port in a British colony, and similarly that an American vessel shall be handed over to a United States cruiser, or sent to New York or Key West. The negroes are to be set free on British territory. Agreeably to these engagements, fresh instructions are issued to the commanders of the ships of the two nations employed to prevent the African slave-trade.

IMPROVED INDUSTRIAL DWELLINGS COMPANY.—The fourteenth half-yearly meeting of this company was held on Friday at the Mansion House. Alderman Sir Sydney Waterlow presided, and among those present were Sir John Lubbock, M.P., Sir William Bodkin, Mr. Alan Morrison, Mr. Scrimgeour, and others. In the report the following passages occurred:—"The sum of 33,562l. 18s. 4d. has been expended during the half-year on works in progress, and in completing the purchase of the Bethnal-green estate, &c., and the total expenditure on the capital account is now 167,903l. The gross rents received during the half-year amount to 6,878l. 0s. 7d.; interest allowed by bankers, and other items, amounting to 68l. 15s. 8d.; making the total income 6,946l. 16s. 3d. The total expenditure, including the contributions to the reserve accounts, amounts to 3,169l. 4s. 8d., leaving a profit of 3,777l. 11s. 7d., which is equal to 6l. 0s. 10½d. per cent. per annum on the subscribed capital." The report was adopted, and a dividend of 5 per cent. declared. The meeting was brought to a close after votes of thanks had been passed to the chairman and directors.

SAD ACCIDENT TO A SCHOOL EXCURSION PARTY.—A shocking accident occurred to a school excursion party at Wood-green on Tuesday night. Seven vans, containing a number of persons connected with Zion Chapel and schools, in Bethnal-green, had been to Hadley-wood, Barnet, on a pleasure excursion, and started homewards between eight and nine in the evening. The horses in one of the vans, each of which was drawn by three horses, even then seemed tired out, and would not, or could not, drag the vehicle. The occupants therefore were requested to take their places in another van. Many went inside, but fourteen went upon the roof. When the over-filled van was descending Jolly Batchers'-hill, Wood-green, the leading horse suddenly broke away and the two others began to plunge, and before they could again be brought under control carried the van up the footpath and threw it over with a terrible crash, burying the horses beneath it, and hurling the people who had been riding on the roof in all directions. Some of them were seriously injured, and one man, whose skull was fractured, is not expected to recover. Nearly all the persons in the van received some injury. When the van was raised

it was found that the cap and chains had come off the pole, which had caused the confusion among the horses. The driver is said to have been quite sober at the time of the accident.

THE SEFTON LIBEL CASE.—The trial of the Sefton libel case took place at the Leeds Assizes on Thursday. It will be remembered that the action was brought against Mr. Leng, proprietor of the *Sheffield Telegraph*, for inserting a paragraph affecting the Earl and Countess of Sefton. Sir John Karslake, who conducted the prosecution, stated that the plaintiff was actuated by no vindictive spirit, but the Earl felt it to be his duty to the public to lay a criminal information against the defendant. Mr. Digby Seymour, who appeared for Mr. Leng, said that his client had made an ample apology for the indiscretion of his sub-editor, Mr. Peddie, and contended that Mr. Leng was not responsible, as when the paragraph was published he was ill at home, and unable to exercise his usual supervision. The sub-editor, reporters, cashier, and other members of the staff having been examined, the judge summed up, the tone of his address being unfavourable to the defendant. After about five minutes' deliberation the jury returned a verdict for the prosecution. Sentence deferred.

SIR ROBERT COLLIER ON THE WAR.—The Attorney-General addressed a meeting of the electors of Plymouth on Friday evening, with a view to his re-election. He said he regarded the war as the greatest calamity that had befallen Europe for generations—the greatest discouragement to those who believed in the influence of progress and enlightenment. It was lamentable that thousands should be thus sacrificed because two great persons had quarrelled. He believed the English Government would interfere in the interests of peace as soon as possible. Meanwhile the steps which had been taken to vindicate the treaty engagements and honour of this country with regard to Belgium approved themselves to men of all parties, and would obtain the desired end. He did not believe England would come into the quarrel; but if she did he would quote the authority of Lord Derby to show that she was never better prepared. Next in importance to the new treaty guaranteeing the integrity of Belgium he placed the new Foreign Enlistment Act, on which he had exercised all his skill, so as to make it perfect. It was impossible to pass a law which no one could break, but he believed this measure would be effective.

THE WELSH EVICTIONS.—A libel case, arising out of the alleged political evictions in Denbighshire after the general election in 1868, was tried at Chester on Saturday before Lord Chief Justice Cockburn. The plaintiff, Mr. John Williams, is an architect and land agent at Llangollen. He has for four years been agent to Mr. Edwin Wynne Lewis, the owner of an estate in Denbighshire, who is a Liberal in politics, while Mr. Williams himself is a Conservative. The libel he complained of was a letter published in January last in the *Banner*, a newspaper belonging to the defendant in the action, Mr. Thomas Gee, asserting that the plaintiff had given notice to quit to a tenant of Mr. Lewis's, named Evan Parry, who had voted for Mr. Osborne Morgan and Colonel Biddulph. It was also asserted that the plaintiff had endeavoured to induce Parry to vote for Sir W. Wynn and Colonel Biddulph, and had told him he would be sorry for it if he did not. Mr. Lewis was called, and stated that the notice to quit was sent by his orders because of Parry's impudence and non-payment of rent. Parry was also examined, and stated that he did know why he was turned out of his farm, and that when he received the notice to quit he did not owe any rent. The Lord Chief Justice, in summing up, said he thought the jury would agree with him that a serious imputation had been made against the plaintiff, and if they thought it was wrongfully insinuated they would mark their sense of it by the damages they gave. On the other hand, if Mr. Williams had behaved harshly to this man they would consider how far that sustained the plea which the defendant set up. The jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, 50l.

RIOTOUS DEMONSTRATION AT DERRY.—The 12th, the anniversary of the closing of the gates of Derry, was celebrated in the usual fashion. The demonstration was the largest ever seen, great numbers of persons being present from Coleraine and Newtownlimavaddy. About 3,000 persons, accompanied by four bands of music, went in procession to the Cathedral. As the Apprentice Boys were entering the Cathedral a large crowd, headed by Andrew Joseph McKenna, of Belfast, attempted to break through Bishopsgate-street, but they were prevented by the police and the dragoons. Three or four of the Roman Catholic party received sword cuts. One man has since died, and another is dangerously wounded. At night all was quiet, and the anniversary celebration proceeded in an orderly manner. Several thousand persons assembled in a field at Silverhill, near Enniskillen, to celebrate the anniversary. Flags were carried and music played. Another report states that the Catholics mustered in the Corn Market, to the number of 7,000, and, with a great display of party colours and banners, proceeded to make the circuit of the streets. At Bishopsgate they were refused admission inside the walls by the authorities. They made a determined attempt to force their way in, and were charged by the carabinieri and constabulary. A later telegram says there was considerable rioting in several parts of the city in the evening, and frequent charges had to be made upon the mob by the cavalry and the police.

Contingents of the Orange and Roman Catholic parties met on the bridge, and a desperate affray ensued. Shots were exchanged. Some omnibuses, in which the Orangemen took refuge, were wrecked. The Riot Act was read several times. Forty persons were more or less seriously injured. Under date of "Friday, midnight," we read:—"One man has been killed in the riots to-day, another had his arm cut off, and a third is seriously injured." On Saturday night a telegram stated there was another riot at a place called Bishopsgate. One man was stabbed, and stones and bricks were thrown, injuring several persons. Thirteen arrests were made. The police had to charge the mob and clear the streets. About twelve o'clock a disturbance took place along Shore-road, and a number of windows in that locality were smashed.

Gleanings.

The Poet Laureate is said to be at work on a new poem.

The foot-and-mouth disease is spreading rapidly in Somersetshire and Dorsetshire.

Nearly 20,000 persons visited the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, the speciality of the day being a concert by the Tonic-Solfa Association.

The Mayor of Bradford has just laid the foundation stone of the new Town Hall in that place. It is to cost 43,000l.; the style is mediæval.

The portrait of Charles Dickens, at the age of forty-three, painted by the eminent historical painter Ary Scheffer, in 1855, has just been purchased for the National Portrait Gallery.

The inhabitants of Crawley have determined to perpetuate the memory of the late Mr. Mark Lemon, who was for many years a resident of that village, by erecting a drinking fountain to his memory.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* writes that last year Great Britain took 10½ million pounds of Indian tea, against 7½ millions in the previous year. This year's increase promises to be proportionally greater.

The Maine newspapers are engaged in poetically describing the beauties of their streams. Recently a paper there contained a poem on the claims of the "Jims-kitticook," which was dedicated to the author of a previous poem on the merits of the "Skoodoonaskooksis."

REMARKABLE RESCUE.—A lady standing in George-square, Glasgow, heard cries proceeding from a grating near her, and it was found that three "Arabs" were underneath. The grating was forced open, and the boys extricated. Dirty, barefooted, and weeping, they presented a sorrowful spectacle. They had entered the drain a long distance from the spot where they were found, and their candle getting extinguished, they lost their way.

The *Athenæum* publishes a letter from Mr. J. O. Halliwell, in which that gentleman says:—"A discovery I have recently made of a series of documents can hardly fail to interest many of your readers. They reveal the long-hidden mystery of the story of the establishment of the Globe and Blackfriars theatres. It is now certain that Shakespeare, who is more than once alluded to by name, was never a proprietor in either theatre. His sole interest in them consisted in a participation, as an actor, in the receipts of what is called the 'house.'"

A COMPREHENSIVE PIE.—The biggest pie on record was made at Lowther Castle, in Westmoreland, in the year 1762, and was sent up as a present to the King. It contained two geese, four ducks, two turkeys, four wild fowls, one wild goose, six wild ducks, three teal, two starlings, twelve partridges, fifteen woodcocks, two guinea-fowls, three snipes, six plovers, three water hens, six widgeons, one curlew, forty-six yellowhammers, fifteen sparrows, two chaffinches, two larks, three thrushes, one field-fare, six pigeons, four blackbirds, twenty rabbits, one leg of veal, half a ham, three bushels of flour, two stone of butter. The whole pie weighed twenty-two stone. This must have been the original pie commemorated in the nursery rhyme—"When the pie was opened," &c.—*Food Journal*.

AN EFFECT OF THE WAR.—The fine weather which has now so long prevailed and the war on the continent are, the former inducing, and the latter forcing, shoals of visitors to the Isle of Man. On Tuesday evening between 600 and 700 strangers arrived, on the previous evening 2,000, and every evening brings hundreds of holiday-makers and health-seekers; so great, indeed, has the influx become that there is the greatest difficulty in obtaining even shelter and sleeping room, to say nothing of comfortable apartments. We are told of visitors of all grades tramping up and down Douglas for hours, vainly endeavouring to find a place wherein to rest their weary limbs, and of lodging-houses and boarding-houses being full from the kitchen to the attic, and chairs, sofas, hearthrugs, and carpets being extemporised into "beds," and scarcely a hall or lobby but has its occupant.

PHOTOGRAPHING THE SUN.—Professor Winlock is now engaged in photographing the sun on a plan which, so far as we know, has not before been put into practice. He uses a single lens object glass, 4½ inches diameter, forty feet focal length, of crown glass, made by Clark, and corrected for spherical aberration by means of an artificial star of homogeneous (sodium) light in the focus of a five-inch collimator. The image of the sun is 4½ inches in diameter. The tube of the telescope points to the

North, and the image of the sun is thrown in by means of a reflector of plate-glass. This glass is not roughened or blackened on one side, because when that was done the heat of the sun distorted the plain surface. The slit is at the object-glass end of the telescope, and that position has the advantage that when it is thrown across no dust is shaken down on the plate, as is apt to happen in the usual way of working. It is Mr. Winlock's intention to photograph the sun every fair day now. It seems also probable that this mode of photographing might be of advantage for the partial phases of an eclipse.—*Nature*.

NOTICE.—All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage-stamps.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

BROWN—PRICE.—August 6, at the Congregational Church, Lewisham High-road, New Cross, by the Rev. Robert H. Marten, assisted by the Rev. Geo. Martin, Alfred, son of William Brown, of Hothfield, Kent, to Emma, daughter of William Price, of 6, Amersham Villas, Lewisham High-road.

CARRIER—DARKIN.—August 10, at Queen-street Chapel, Wolverhampton, by the Rev. T. G. Horton, Thomas Weddington, eldest son of Mr. Samuel Carrier, of Newcastle-under-Lyme, to Kate Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. William Straker Darkin, formerly Secretary of the Shrewsbury and Chester Railway Company, and subsequently Sub-Inspector of Factories for Ireland. No cards.

WHITLEY—TARVER.—August 10, at Emberton, Bucks, by the Rev. C. F. Tarver, M.A., Vicar of St. Peter's, Thetford, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, and brother of the bride, assisted by the Rev. C. G. Hulton, M.A., Rector of Emberton, George Crisp Whiteley, B.A., St. John's College, Cambridge, and of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law, son of George Friend Whiteley, Esq., Justice of the Peace for the County of Surrey, to Alice Emily, youngest daughter of the late J. C. Tarver, Esq., of Eton College.

DEATHS.

BUTLER.—August 9, at Soale, Norfolk, after a short illness, Alice Mary, the eldest daughter of Isaac and Sarah Butler, of Camden-road, London, aged six years.

PAYNE.—August 12, at Hatchlands, Cuckfield, Sussex, William Payne, Esq., in the sixty-ninth year of his age. Friends are requested to accept this intimation.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 82, for the week ending Wednesday, Aug. 10.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£39,230,325	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	£2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	£18,280,325
			£32,280,325

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,552,000	Government Securities	£12,482,861
Reserve	£4,452,500	Other Securities ..	£2,984,900
Public Deposits ..	£5,000,000	Notes	£44,901,888
Other Deposits ..	£30,000,705	Gold & Silver Coins	£80,871
Seven Day and other			
Bills	£68,907		
	£44,901,888		£44,901,888

Aug. 11, 1870.

FRANK MAY, Deputy Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT have been used freely by millions of human beings of both sexes and all ages, in every part of the world, and while the public press teems with authenticated cases of extraordinary cures of a vast variety of diseases (such as indigestion, scorbutic eruptions, and liver complaints), there is not on public record, a single case in which their use has been attended with bad effect. None when using Holloway's Ointment and pills, need suffer the hope of cure to be counterbalanced by the fear of injury. They cannot do harm, they must do good. They may be taken by the weakest persons, as beneficially as by the most robust. They never fail to expel impurities, and to induce perfect regularity of action.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, August 15.

We had a small supply of English wheat and moderate arrivals from abroad. The market to-day has been extremely depressed, and prices unsettled. English wheat ruled 8s. to 4s. below the prices of Monday last. New wheat made 46s. to 50s. for red, and 50s. to 54s. for white. The decline in foreign wheat was 3s. per qr. Flour was 2s. per sack and 1s. per barrel lower. Peas and beans declined 1s. each in value. Barley and Indian corn sold slowly at 1s. to 2s. per qr. decline. Of oats the supply on board ship is very large, and prices have given way fully 2s. per qr. since this day week, and many of the cargoes are being landed. Cargoes on the coast meet little demand. Wheat has declined 2s., and Indian corn 1s. per qr. since last Monday.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Red and Kent	s. d.	s. d.
Red, old ..	— to —	— to —
Ditto new ..	47 50	— to —
White, old ..	— to —	— to —
White, new ..	50 54	— to —
Foreign red ..	47 50	— to —
Foreign white ..	50 53	— to —
BARLEY—		
English malting ..	32 86	— to —
Chevalier ..	40 46	— to —
Distilling ..	37 41	— to —
Foreign ..	35 40	— to —
MALT—		
Pale ..	— to —	— to —
Chevalier ..	— to —	— to —
Brown ..	49 56	— to —
BEANS—		
Black ..	42 44	— to —
Harrow ..	43 47	— to —
Small ..	— to —	— to —
Egyptian ..	39 41	— to —
PEAS—		
Grey ..	37 to 39	— to —
Maple ..	45 44	— to —
White ..	39 40	— to —
Boilers ..	39 40	— to —
Foreign, boilers ..	39 40	— to —
RYE ..	36 38	— to —
OATS—		
English feed ..	23 80	— to —
potato ..	27 34	— to —
Scotch feed ..	— to —	— to —
potato ..	— to —	— to —
Irish black ..	21 24	— to —
white ..	26 30	— to —
Foreign feed ..	22 25	— to —
FLOUR—		
Town made ..	48 54	— to —
Country Marks ..	39 40	— to —
Norfolk & Suffolk	34 38	— to —

BREAD, London, Saturday, August 13.—The prices in the Metropolitan are, for Wheatens Bread, per 4lbs. loaf, 5d. to 8d.; Household Bread, 7d. to 7½d.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, August 15.—Limited supplies of meat have been on sale. The trade has been firmer, and prices have ruled as under.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.		s. d.	
Inferior beef ..	3 6 to 3 10	Inf. mutton ..	3 6 to 3 8
Middling ditto ..	3 10 to 4 0	Middling ditto ..	3 0 to 4 0
Prime large do. ..	4 2 to 4 6	Prime ditto ..	4 8 to 5 0
Do. small do. ..	4 8 to 5 0	Veal ..	4 0 to 4 8
Large Pork ..	4 0 to 4 4	Lamb ..	5 0 to 5 8
Small pork ..	5 0 to 5 4		

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, August 15.

—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 12,075 head. In the corresponding week in 1869 we received 10,679; in 1868, 11,998; in 1867, 12,940; and in 1866, 17,292 head. There were large arrivals of foreign stock on sale here to-day, but the supplies from our own grazing districts fell off considerably. The general quality of the beasts on sale was inferior; but choice beef, being scarce, commanded very full prices. There was a large arrival of beasts from Tanning, probably among the last we shall receive from thence so long as the blockade of the North German ports by the French is maintained. Trade ruled far from active to-day, but good beef being scarce, commanded very full prices, and some choice Scotch and Hereford heifers sold at 5s. 8d. per 8lbs., but the more general top price was 5s. 6d. Heavy Lincolnshire-fed beasts may be quoted at 5s. per 8lbs. Foreign beef was dull rather lower. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire we received about 1,250 shorthorns, &c.; from other parts of England about 550 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 40 excellent Scots and crosses. The number of sheep in the pens was fully up to the average; but good sound wethers were scarce and changed hands readily at very full prices, say 5s. 6d. per 8lbs. for choice southdowns. There was less activity in the demand for mutton, and prices have with difficulty been maintained. Lambs sold slowly, and changed hands on former terms; while pigs were rather firmer.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.		s. d.	
Inf. coarse beasts ..	3 6 to 4 2	Prime Southdowns	5 4 to 5 6
Second quality ..	4 4 to 4 8	Lambs ..	5 10 to 6 8
Prime large oxen ..	4 10 to 5 4	Lga. coarse calves	3 4 to 4 4
Prime Scots, &c. ..	5 4 to 5 8	Prime small ..	4 8 to 5 6
Coarse inf. sheep ..	3 6 to 3 10	Large hogs ..	4 2 to 5 0
Second quality ..	3 10 to 4 6	Weston. porkers ..	5 4 to 5 8
Pr. coarse woolled ..	4 8 to 5 2		

PROVISIONS, Monday, August 15.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,459 firkins butter, and 2,675 bales bacon; and from foreign ports 24,275 packages butter, and 1,941 bales bacon. The demand for butter continues good, and the arrivals being moderate, the finest foreign sells well, Normandy and Jerseys advanced about 4s. per cwt., but owing to the quality of the Dutch having suffered from the heat of the weather, prices declined 8s. to 10s. per cwt. Bacon sold slowly, and prices declined 1s. per cwt. on best Waterford sizeable, and 3s. to 4s. on other descriptions. Hamburg 2s. lower.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, August 13.—We have little to record this week, as markets and prices remain much as the same. The supply of fruit, however, is beginning to fall off. Apples and pears are abundant and cheap, the former comprising Williams' Bon Chretien, Jargonelles, and Beurre d'Amanlis; the latter Nonpareil, Astrachan, and the Hawthornden. Amongst flowers we have Balsams, Pelargoniums, single and double Gladioli, Heaths, Coleus, Hydrangeas, Fuchsias, Crasulacae, &c.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, August 15.—Considering the period of the season, we have a strong demand for the best home growths of 1869, and also for fine foreign of every description. Reports from the plantations have assumed a more favourable character, the recent heavy rains having greatly benefited the plant, while the late hops are already through into burr, giving promise of a crop both of good quality and fair quantity. Picking will be general about the first week in September. Latest advices from New York report a dull market, at late rates. Reports from the most important hop sections are unanimous as to the serious shortness of the coming crop compared with that of last year, and give little or no hope of any recovery as far as the diseased yards are concerned. Mid and East Kent, Gl. Co., St. Co. to St. Co.; Walsley, Gl. Co., Gl. Co., to 7l. 10s.; Sussex, Gl. Co., Gl. Co., to 6l. 10s.; Bavarians, Gl. Co., Gl. Co., to 7l. Co.; French, Gl. Co., Gl. Co., to 6l. Co.; Americans, Gl. Co., Gl. Co., to 5l. 10s.; Yearlings, 1l. Co., 1l. 15s., to 2l. 10s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, August 15.—These markets have been moderately supplied with potatoes. The trade has been quiet at about low rates. The imports into London last week consisted of 37 tons, 460 boxes from Berneux; 102 baskets Dunkirk; 688 boxes, Pomeroy; 688 bags, from Rotterdam. English shaws, 7s. to 8s. per ton; Regents, 8s. to 10s. per ton.

SEED, Monday, August 8.—English cloverseed was in very limited supply. Foreign qualities were held for more money. New English rapeseed was offering freely, and the best descriptions could be bought on lower terms. The demand from seedsmen was tolerably good. New trefoil was held at 22s. per cwt., with buyers at 20s. and 21s. White Mustardseed was quite as dear. Choice English rapeseed brought previous values for sowing. New winter tares were held at high prices, but not many were sold. New rye and oats were placed to a good extent for immediate sowing, at no material change in the value of any of these articles.

WOOL, Monday, August 15.—There is rather more animation in the wool market, in sympathy with the better feeling in the yarn trade. Prices remain without quotable change, but there is more inclination to do business at late rates. Choice lustre and demi-lustre wools are most in request, but the actual sales have not been large.

OIL, Monday, August 15.—There has been a slow demand for linseed oil, but rape has been firm, and quite as dear; other oils have been in limited request.

TALLOW, Monday, August 15.—The market has been quiet, Y.O., on the spot, 44s. 3d. per cwt. Town Tallow 42s. 6d. net cash.

COAL, Monday, August 15.—Markets heavy at last day's rates. Carradoc Wallsend, 18s. 6d.; Gosforth ditto, 17s.; Hetton Wallsend, 19s.; Hetton Lyons, ditto, 16s. 9d.; Haswell ditto 19s.; Hartlepool (original) ditto, 19s.; Hartlepool (Hetton) ditto, 18s. 8d.; Kelloe, ditto, 18s.; Tunstall, ditto, 16s. 9d.; Eden Main, 17s. 3d.; Holywell Main, 17s. 9d.; Hartley's, 17s. 3d.; Tees, 18s. 6d. Ships fresh arrived, 45; ships left from last day, 9; total, 54. Ships at sea, 5.

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Accumulated Capital, £2,851,890 14s. 6d.

Gross Annual Income, £121,014 15s. 11d.

The profits are applied in reduction of the premiums, or as bonuses added to the sums assured. Profits declared at the division on 30th November, 1867, amount to £259,229 17s. 9d., making the total profits realised since December, 1855, £1,788,483 2s.

Prospectuses and forms of proposal forwarded on application.

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